

**WEST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**February 1, 2016**  
**Curriculum Committee Meeting**  
**Board's Meeting Room**

The Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board's Meeting Room on the second floor of City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut on February 1, 2016. The meeting was called to order by Karen Pacelli, Chairwoman of the Curriculum Committee at 6:30 p.m. The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Karen Pacelli  
Patrick Leigh  
Rosemary Russo  
Susan Walker

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

James W. Morrissey, Chairman  
Robert Guthrie, Vice Chair  
Rosa Richardson

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Neil Cavallaro, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Anne Druzolowski, Assistant Superintendent  
Matt Cavallaro, Director of Finance

Chairwoman Karen Pacelli welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the curriculum committee members. Karen Pacelli stated she is chair of the committee and Susan Walker, Rosemary Russo, and Patrick Leigh are members of the curriculum committee. Dana Parades and Pam Gardner are here tonight to share the presentation on leveling.

Dana Parades, Assistant Principal of West Haven High School and Pam Gardner, Principal of West Haven High School gave the presentation. Dana said the current levels at our school are Honors, Advanced Placement, Academic Level, and Developmental Level in English only. The academic level is a mixed grouping with students who don't fall into the other three areas. Developmental class is for students who really struggle in reading and need the extra support to read independently. In 9<sup>th</sup> grade there are usually three to four sections of the developmental class but by the time they are seniors there will be one section. The goal is to get them to the next level where they don't need that

developmental reading. Beginning next year there will be a pretty big shift to different levels within each of the core required classes.

With the new levels there are: Competitive College Preparatory Courses (which are the Advanced Placement and Honors) those won't change they will be the same placement and honors courses that we always offered with the addition of two new advanced placement course; Advanced Placement U.S. History and Advanced Placement Computer Science. For advanced placement courses all students are expected to take the College Board AP Exam at the end of the year in order to get credit for the class. If they pass with a 3, 4 or 5 many colleges and universities will accept this as college credit. A further discussion took place.

Our Level 1 courses are going to be our accelerated college preparatory courses for students looking to attend a competitive 4 year college perhaps not as competitive as one of our advanced placement and honors students would go to.

Our Level 2 which will be our college preparatory courses for students who are looking to go to a less competitive college.

Our level 3 our college readiness courses will be available only in English and that would be for students who need remediation before they will be ready to take credit bearing courses at college. There was a lengthy discussion about the courses with question asked by board members and answered by Dana and Pam.

The overhead of the complete presentation is located on the website.

Respectfully submitted,

Marylou Amendola  
Board Secretary