

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Committee: YHALE Academic Committee

Meeting need not be verbatim. These minutes are a brief summary of the events of the meeting.

Date:	Start	End	Next Meeting:	Next time:	Prepared by:
1/29/26	6:30pm	8:25pm	2/26/26	6:30pm	Lyn Carden
Meeting Location:					
Virtual					
Attended by:					
Liza Park Tomiko Park Maya Jenkins Ami Hastings Yelena Kim Ji Ma Terry Haywood Emile Hanam			Lyn Carden		
Highlights:					

CALL TO ORDER - 6:30pm

- I. Committee Updates** – Ms. L Park notified the committee that Mr. Chung had a personal emergency and would not be attending the meeting.

- II. Middle School Planning** – Ms. T. Park presented
 - The committee discussed questions asked regarding math at a recent middle school information session with 5th grade parents. Ms. T. Park reported that she had sent an email with a full explanation to the 5th grade parent regarding the middle school math curriculum. Additionally, she received a list of questions and created a video to answer them all. She pointed out that ‘pre-algebra’ is not a term that is used any more. The class that is offered at YHALE is the 9th grade algebra class; it is an enhanced 8th grade math class with concepts of algebra. YHALE students that take that class will go on to take geometry in 9th grade.
 - Ms. T. Park explained that the school begins to track students’ math scores in 4th grade to monitor progress.
 - The committee discussed the 7th graders math requirement. Ms. T. Park noted that only 8th grade students may take the advanced path way, based on student data, 6th and 7th grade students take the same math course.
 - She reported that decisions are made and students are notified at the end of 7th grade year after milestone data is released, if a student is proficient the school will discuss placement.
 - Ms. T. Park reviewed the process for enrollment in “Enhanced Algebra”
 - The committee discussed timing of and possible remediation opportunities and preparation for the elementary students.
 - The committee compared YHALEs process to other district’s requirements.
 - They discussed the option for parents who enroll their students in the enhanced algebra class against school recommendations, it’s risks and ramifications.
 - They discussed retention.

III. Target Language

- Target Language Assessment – Ms. Ma present
 - i. She provided a report on the most recent screening results as well as a July and January comparison.
 - ii. She reported on language 1 assessment for 6th grade Korean and provided a comparison from fall 2024 and fall 2025.
 - iii. She reported on 6th Chinese language level I and provided a comparison from fall 2024 to 2025.
 - iv. She noted the improvement and discussed the reasoning.
 - v. She provided a Lunar New Year update.
 - vi. And an update on KSOL & MSOL.
 - vii. She discussed parent input regarding structure and services and plans for improvement based upon that input.
 - viii. She reported on grade 1 newcomers and language proficiency.
 - ix. Ms. Ma told the committee that the school was focusing on creating a more bilingual environment and outlined the plan for doing so.
 - x. She reported on professional development the teachers were receiving regarding communication.
 - xi. The committee discussed the next student assessments. Ms. Ma told the committee that K-5 was currently doing their mid-year assessment which was scheduled to be complete on January 30. She reported on grades 5, 6 and 7 end of year assessment of the STAMP test noting that 7th grade they will be taking the more challenging STAMP 4. The committee talked about the STAMP test requirements.
 - xii. The committee discussed the states foreign language pathway and the schools offering. Ms. T. Park reminded the committee that the YHALE curriculum offers middle school students the opportunity to leave YHALE in 8th grade with 4 high school foreign language credits. The committee discussed the requirements of the credits and high school transcripts.
 - xiii. Ms. Ma reported that YHALE offers students who choose to the opportunity to take the GLOBE seal of biliteracy. The committee discussed the costs.

IV. Curriculum & Academic Development – Ms. Jenkins reported that students recently completed access testing, the assessment for ESOL students to determine their level.

- The committee discussed hiring needs and staffing budget for next year.

V. Reporting Update

- TKES Mid-Year Completion – Teachers are currently in mid-year conferences.
- LKES Mid-Year Completion – School leadership is currently in mid-year conference.

VI. Old Business

- Accreditation – Ms. L. Park reported
 - i. She and Mr. Chung had identified committee members.
 - ii. They discussed meeting dates.
 - iii. The academic committee discussed the objectives of the accreditation committee.
- FY27 Academic Calendar proposal
 - i. Ms. L. Park reported that the board reviewed the two proposals during their last meeting and would be selecting the calendar at their next meeting. She requested committee input on the selection.
 - ii. Ms. Ma presented two proposed versions.
 - iii. Various members of the committee provided input.
 - iv. The committee discussed the instructional day count and holiday breaks.
 - v. They compared the school schedule to the schedule of Gwinnett County.
 - vi. They discussed the impact of the start and end dates.

- vii. Based upon committee input, Ms. Ma made an alternate recommendation. Ms. L. Park requested that recommendation be provided to the board as a 3rd alternate for the board meeting.

VII. New Business

- CCRPI Multi-Year Performance Review: Trends, Strengths, and Growth Areas- Ms. Jenkins presented
 - i. She provided a report which included 3 years of data.
 - ii. She reviewed the data for each content area and discussed the importance of the data.
 - iii. She talked about meeting targets and goals the school had set to continue to improve outcomes.
 - iv. She discussed the value of Access testing and the strategies the school was using to offer additional support to struggling students.
 - v. The committee discussed GOSA.
 - vi. They discussed subgroups & middle school data.
- Social Studies and Science curriculum change update – Ms. T Park presented
 - i. She discussed the Georgia Inspire social studies and science curriculum and its connection to the state standards.
 - ii. She reported on the plans for curriculum in 8th grade for next year, noting the school was seeking additional resources in preparation and that the school was seeking hands on visual activities to support learning.
 - iii. The committee discussed the different kinds of science curriculum the state required for each grade, noting the 8th will be studying physical science for the first time since 5th grade.
- Ms. L Park thanked the school team for their work.

VIII. Next Meeting Date – February 26, 2026 at 6:30pm

ADJOURNMENT – 8:25pm