

Curriculum Advisory Council Minutes



September 25, 2023
5:15 to 6:45
Woodland Media Center

Present: Amy Balcome, Darcy Josephson, Casey Reis, Jason Lattimer, Laura Knudsen, Kari VanWakeren, Robyn Stepaniak, Heather Timm, Maureen Eigen, Megan Burkhammer, Michelle Bethke-Kaliher

Darcy shared the CAC by-laws and allowed the committee to ask any questions.

Marceia Andreasen, Teacher Induction Coordinator, presented to the committee about the Teacher Induction Program. Marceia explained the history of the program which started back in 2001. Teachers either have 1 year or 3 years of induction depending on their tenure status. The program focuses on the Charlotte Danielson Rubrics and Standards of Effective Practice from MDE. MDE started using a similar structure to ours after meeting with Marceia about the APS program. Over the 3 years of probation, teachers have a 1:1 mentor, coaching sessions, workshops, video observations, and various training sessions.

Darcy gave the committee an update on how we are implementing our new K-5 Literacy. Some comments were that the new curriculum is more rigorous and will be good. Darcy shared some information about the READ Act.

6-12 ELA will be going through a literacy review this year, similar to K-5 last year. They will be presenting their findings to the committee in the spring and will have recommendations for the committee. A question was asked about when we would see some changes from our new curriculum and it will take roughly 3-5 years, some aspects might be visible sooner.

The committee discussed our staff development and late start days and the training that is completed.. Some upcoming training/speakers are Artificial Intelligence training, American Indian Speaker, and Benchmark Universe training.

Theresa Ziebarth is our American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPC) Chair and she is also a part of this committee. APIC is required due to our enrollment of American Indian students, 68 students are enrolled this year. Michelle Flaten is our liaison and works with AIPC and Theresa to decide the use of the funds. This year we have two guest speakers and will continue doing a 5th grade beading class during their art time. After funds are approved, we are looking at hiring someone to help put together resources, like interactive trunks for hands-on activities in classrooms. The committee discussed ideas to get more parent engagement in our parent advisory committee.

The committee discussed the e-learning day plan, there were no changes from last year. Rick Sansted asked the committee for suggestions or comments on the plan, specially making up snow days for staff. Some ideas were doing three professional development nights or could it be a holiday teachers have off.