

Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2022

Instructional Materials Committee

Facilitator: Fred Rundle, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services • Secretary: Vanessa Adams, Learning Services

Present:

Jamey Balousek
Roxane Chan
Adil Chaudrey
Kimberly Griggs
Joseph Gushanas
Ryan Hsi
Kati McConn
Erica Ottesen
Sophie Prock
Mia Shi
Kim Thomas
Vivian Zhou

Absent:

Carly Adams
Lisa Bienstock
Mary Jo Budzius
Alyson Burks
Renee DeBock
Anna Fein
Tony Ive
Jill Kelly
Kelsey Sims
Beilan Wang
Alexandra Weil

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 PM. Fred welcomed participants to the third meeting of the year, held via Zoom Video Conferencing. Fred acknowledged departing members Jamey Balousek and Joseph Gushanas for their three years of service on the committee, noting that their perspectives and contributions have been appreciated

Benchmark Advance Reading – Literacy Curriculum

All K-5 schools, Literacy: Reading and phonics– **Core Instructional Material**

Written by: Peter Afflerbach, Silvia Dorta-Duque de Reyes, Linda Hoyt, Adria Klein, Patty McGee, Jeff Zwiers, Allison Briceño, Wiley Blevins, Rene Boyer, Michael Priestley, Janet Williams

Published by: Benchmark Education, 2022

Proposal submitted by: Literacy Adoption Committee: Nova Williams (district admin), Amber Bobst (LR 3rd gr. teacher and former HiCap Teacher), Roxane Chen (WM/LR ELD teacher), Heidi Clark (NW Instructional Coach), Michele Frisch (WM K teacher), Amanda Higgins (LR learning support), Jordan Jacobsen (NW 1st teacher), Marisa Leveque (NW 5th teacher), Angela Mitchell (WM Instructional Coach, former 4th teacher), Brenna Nelson (NW Sp.Ed. teacher), Kelly Rorem (IP 2nd teacher), and Parent Ad Hoc: Beth Christofferson (NW), Lisa Paladin (IP)

Nova Williams and several members of the Literacy Adoption Committee presented *Benchmark Advance Reading* for consideration as core instructional material for literacy in reading and phonics in all K-5 schools. *Benchmark Advance Reading* is a comprehensive literacy program that contains both reading and phonics, as well as writing, although the district will not adopt the writing part as we already have a functional writing tool. *Benchmark Advance Reading* is intended to partially replace the current curriculum, *Mondo Bookshop Common Core* which is going out of print. However small group text and the phonics materials from *Mondo* will remain in use, as well as supplementals such as *Heggerty Phonemic Awareness*. The entire K-5 teaching staff provided input for this decision. There was consensus that *Benchmark Advance Reading* provided a broader spectrum to the current curriculum including more options for struggling students.

Fred noted that the typical shelf life of a curriculum program is about ten years, give or take. Curriculum evolves as the world changes.

Vote: Kati McConn motioned to approve *Benchmark Advance Reading* as core instructional material for the the 2022-23 school year. Kimberly Griggs seconded the motion. There were no abstentions. The motion passed.

Mercer Island School District Learning Services

i-Ready Classroom Mathematics (K-5) – Math Curriculum

All K-5 schools, Elementary Math – **Core Instructional Material**

Written by: Mark Ellis, Gladis Kersait, Grae Kelemanik, Amy Lucenta

Published by: Curriculum Associates, LLC: New York, 2020

Proposal submitted by: Elementary Math Adoption Committee: Julie Newcomer-Co-Lead-4th Grade Teacher, Nova Williams-Co-Lead-Assistant Director of Learning Services, Anne Reece-Instructional Coach, Lisa Bienstock-Instructional Coach, Chris Cocklin-Ray-Instructional Coach, Julie Hovind-Instructional Technology Coach, Elizabeth Melton-Grace-Kindergarten Teacher, Kristi Diederich-First Grade Teacher, Samantha Moseley-Second Grade Teacher, Leslie Scheurich-Third Grade, Tori Vermiglio-5th Grade Teacher, Martina Fitzgerald-5th Grade Teacher

Julie Newcomer and several members of the Elementary Math Adoption Committee presented *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics* for consideration as core instructional material for math in all K-5 schools. Julie expressed appreciation for the amazing team of educational personnel who participated in the process, citing a common love of math and the goal of centering students. *i-Ready* is a data-driven, differentiated curriculum to support the diversity of learners at MISD. This mathematics curriculum combines research-based and proven resources to yield measurable gains in student learning. As they use *i-Ready*, teachers will determine if any supplemental materials are needed. The district will implement the curriculum as part of a two-year rollout:

- 2022-23: 3rd-5th Grade
- 2023-24: Kindergarten-2nd Grade

Vote: Joseph Gushanas motioned to approve *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics (K-5)* as core instructional material for all K-5 MISD elementary schools for the 2022-23 school year and beyond. Erica Ottesen seconded the motion. No abstentions. The motion passed.

Committee business and possible June meeting

Fred announced that Vanessa would email members to find out who wants to remain on the committee next year. He also asked for a show of hands to determine if members want to continue meeting via Zoom. This revealed a unanimous preference for Zoom. Several people suggested the possibility of meeting in person one time per year, over Zoom the rest.

Fred advised the committee about a possible meeting in June to review high school World Language proposals. If the proposals are submitted, Vanessa will set up a Zoom meeting for June.

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 PM.