

**School District of River Falls
Educational Program Committee**

Monday, July 6, 2020 - 6:00 PM
District Office
852 E Division Street
River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

Committee members: Alan Tuchtenhagen (Chair), Bob Casey and Mike Thompson

A quorum of the Board may be present for information-gathering purposes only.

Agendas can be viewed at <https://www.rfsd.k12.wi.us/district/school-board.cfm> or at <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/1447>

1. Call to Order - 6:00PM - District Office Conference Room

2. Manner of public notification of meeting

3. Hearing of visitors or delegations

4. Chinese Language and Culture program Spring Semester Update

Background: Nate Wells, RFPME Principal and Esther Wang, Chinese Instructor, will present a program update regarding the Chinese Language and Culture Program this Spring at the RFPME. Staff will share information and photos demonstrating student learning and instructional experiences. Ms. Wang will be presented with a certificate of recognition for her work in the district this spring semester.

Recommended Action: None, informational only.

5. Approve Academic Standards Notice

Background: Jennifer Peterson, Director of Academic Services, will present the Academic Standards used in the School District of River Falls that identifies standards utilized to guide classroom instruction. Standards adopted are used by teachers to develop their curriculum maps, instructional units, and classroom assessments. This is a required annual notice based on Act 55 for approval at the first board meeting after July 1st of each school year.

Recommended Action: Approve the 2020-21 Academic Standards Notice.

6. Meyer Middle School Math Textbook Adoption and Elementary School Bookroom Informational Presentation

Background: Mark Chapin, Meyer Middle School Principal, and Jennifer Peterson, Director of Academic Services will present board members with information regarding the recent MS Math Adoption process as well as information regarding the Elementary School book room resource updates.

Recommended Action: None, informational only.

7. Equity, Inclusivity and Diversity (EID) Committee Progress Report and Future District Social Justice Planning Efforts

Background: David Bell, Director of Human Resources & Leadership Development, and Nate Wells, River Falls Public Montessori Elementary Principal will present an update regarding the District's work aligned to Equity, Inclusivity and Diversity. Information presented will identify previous work completed over the past several years as well as address current District action steps moving forward in response to current events and a heightened sense of urgency within the District.

Recommended Action: None, informational only.

8. Determine Possible Future Agenda Items

Background: Discussion regarding potential future agenda items to be included on upcoming meeting agendas.

Recommended Action: Determine future agenda items as needed.

9. Recommend next Educational Program Committee meeting date

Suggestion: Monday, August 3, 2020, at 6:00 pm in the District Office Conference Room, 852 E Division St.

10. Adjournment

Chinese Teaching at Montessori

Educational Programs Committee Meeting

July 6, 2020



Program Goals

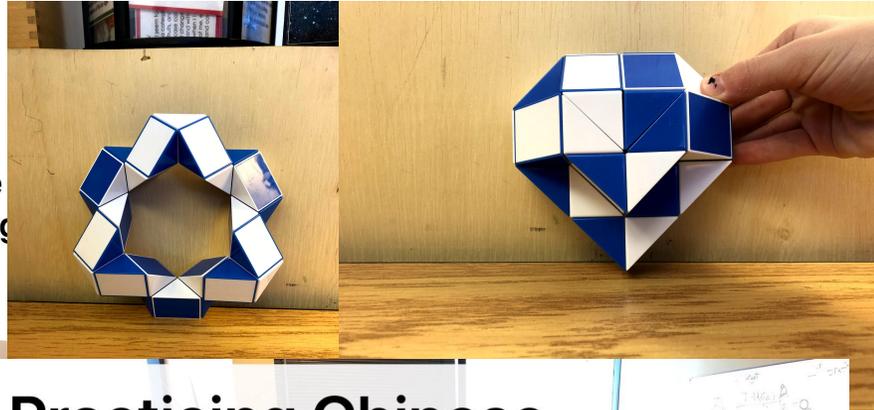
The proposed project, offered as a collaborative initiative between the University of Wisconsin-River Falls (UWRF), the School District of River Falls and the Department of Education in Heilongjiang Province, China, has been developed to offer exposure to basic Chinese language and cultural learning to expand interest in second language acquisition and cultural appreciation among young children.

Learning Chinese & Chinese Culture in the School

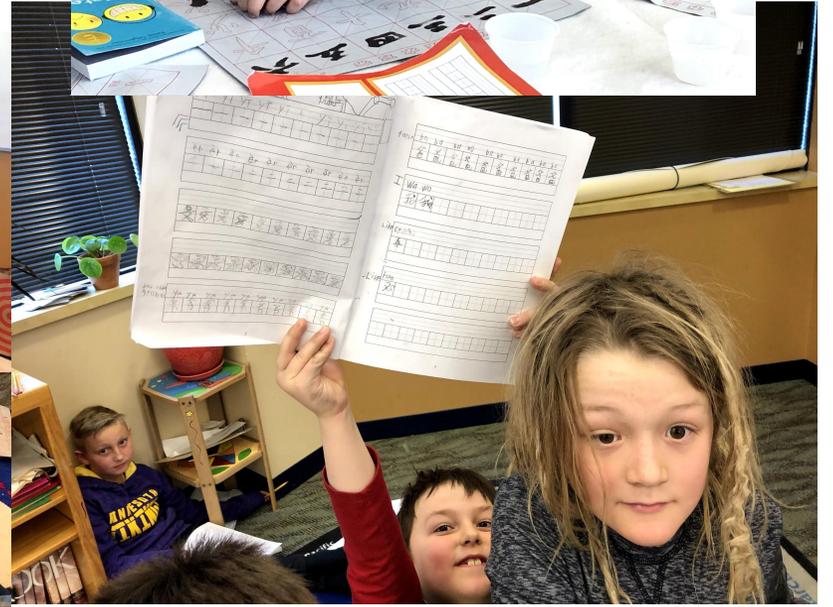
- Students will be provided with the opportunity to obtain language in Mandarin Chinese utilizing a “specials” rotation.
- Grades 4K-6
- Mandarin Chinese Language Instruction
- Calligraphy
- Chinese Culture & Experiences
- Chinese teachers will co-instruct with a Montessori instructor during the morning content

Some Highlights of Teaching Activities at school

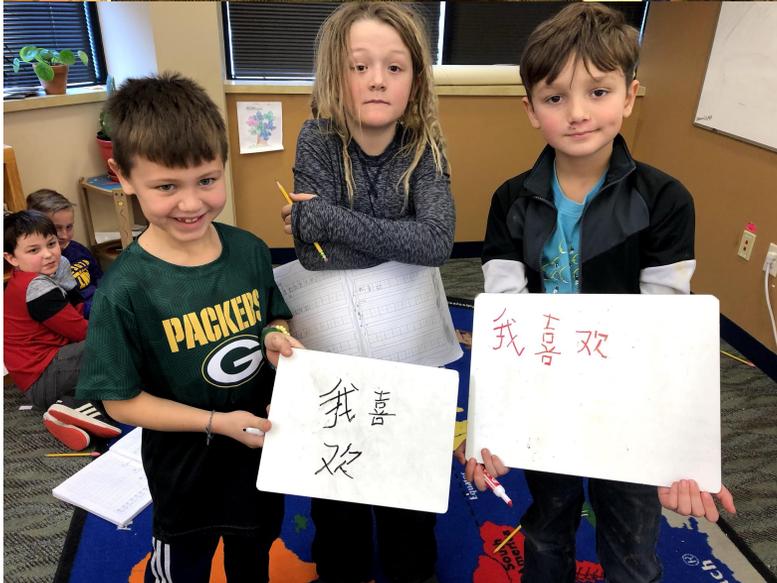
Students making different shapes creatively with the Magic Rulers brought from China



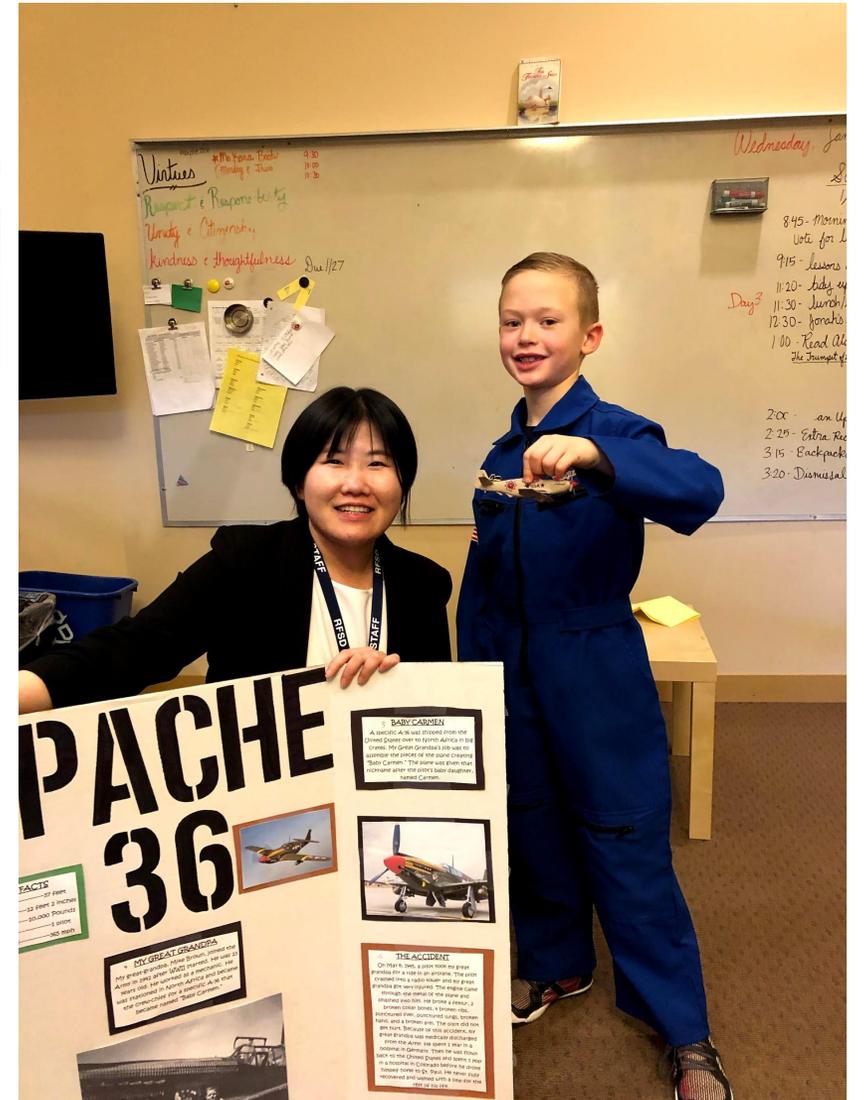
Practicing Chinese calligraphy



Co-teaching and Class Assistance Work



Co-teach lessons of the Bio map of Asia with Ms. Maggie



Other Experiences During Visit

- Trip to Chicago
- Trip to Arkansas
- Kayaking
- Swimming in the St. Croix
- Biking to explore the city

Next Steps

- Virtual Instruction during the 2020-2021 School Year
- Limited Travel opportunities

Appreciation

- Ye “Esther” Wang
- Appreciation for her instruction at the River Falls Public Montessori Elementary
 - January 21, 2020 - June 26, 2020
- Board Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation

Questions or Comments?

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RIVER FALLS
ACADEMIC STANDARDS PUBLIC NOTICE**

July 20, 2020

Board of Education Meeting

In order to ensure that every child graduates ready for further education and the workplace, the School District of River Falls has adopted the following Academic Standards for the 2019-20 school year. Identified curriculum delivered by highly-qualified educators using innovative and research-based instructional strategies will prepare our students to excel as responsible, productive, global citizens.

The standards listed below align to expectations intended to best prepare our students for external assessments (e.g. ASPIRE, ACT, WorkKeys, PSAT, Advanced Placement, Forward, Dynamic Learning Maps, ACCESS 2.0, etc.) that will be used for college and career opportunities.

Instructional materials and resources are utilized in conjunction with the below list of standards to support student learning.

| Content Area | Curricular and Instructional Standards |
|---|--|
| Agriculture | Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources |
| Art | Art & Design Education |
| Business and Marketing | Wisconsin Standards for Business and Information Technology Wisconsin Standards for Personal Finance Literacy Wisconsin Standards for Marketing, Management, and Entrepreneurship |
| English Language Arts (ELA) | Wisconsin Standards for ELA |
| Family Consumer Sciences | Wisconsin Standards for Family and Consumer Science |
| Information and Technology Literacy | Information and Technology Literacy |
| Mathematics | Wisconsin Standards for Math |
| Music | Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Music |
| Physical Education and Health | Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Physical Education Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Health |
| Science Environmental Literacy and Sustainability | Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Science Next Generation Science Standards Environmental Literacy and Sustainability |
| Social Studies | Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Social Studies |
| Technology and Engineering | Wisconsin Standards for Technology and Engineering |
| Theater | Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Theater |
| World Language | Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Learning World Languages |
| Kindergarten Readiness | Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards |
| School Counseling | Wisconsin Comprehensive School Counseling Model ASCA School Counselor Association Model ASCA School Counselor Performance Standards CASEL Core SEL Competencies |

In addition to the standards listed above, additional standards are embedded into our instructional practices intended to personalize student learning and meet individual student needs. These standards include: Disciplinary Literacy Standards, Wisconsin Common Career Technical Standards, and International Society of Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards.

Some of our coursework is dual enrollment or includes a post-secondary experience within the course and follows additional outcomes.

| | |
|--|---|
| AP Coursework | AP Course Outcomes |
| Dual Enrollment Courses (Early College Credit Program and Start College NOW Options) | UW-River Falls, etc. |
| Transcripted Credit Courses | CVTC Course Outcomes; Dakota County Course Outcomes |

Meyer Middle School Math Adoption



Selection Process to Identify New Curricular Resources
to Support Mathematics Instruction



SUPPORTING EVIDENCE & RATIONALE

- End of current Math Curriculum Resource adoption contract
- Lack of Rigor and Current Best Mathematical Practices in our Current Math Curriculum as supported by [Ed Reports \(Glencoe Math\)](#)-2014
- Low Forward Test Scores in Mathematics when compared to surrounding districts and at the state level.
 - In 2018-19 Meyer Middle School had 5.3% of their students scoring “advanced” on the Forward Exam when compared to the state average of 9.4%.
 - The four year average of students in 5th grade scoring proficient and advanced is 52.7%. The four year average of students leaving 8th grade scoring proficient and advanced is 35.3% (state average is 35%).

Why Materials Matter

Instructional materials make a difference for kids. What instructional materials are chosen matter.

Research shows that students learn primarily through their interactions with teachers and content.

Instructional Core materials are the foundation for ensuring that ALL kids are college and career-ready and have the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in school and beyond.

When teachers don't have access to great materials they hunt for them online - often leading to inconsistent quality that impacts low-income students and student of color the most.

Review Criteria

- Resources align to Wisconsin Academic Standards for Mathematics
- Utilized the Ed Reports Adoption Process
(<https://www.edreports.org/resources/adoption-steps>)

Criteria:

- Maintain Focus and Coherence
 - Materials cover criteria and assess skills across a continuum of grades surrounding the grade level in which the skill should be taught.
 - Students and teachers, using the materials as designed, devote the majority of class time in each grade to the focus/essential standards of the grade level.
 - Content that enhances focus and coherence simultaneously by engaging students in the essential grade-level standards. ¹⁸
 - How do these resources align to day by day relevance and application for students.

Review Criteria

- Contain Rigor and Embed Mathematical Practices
 - The instructional materials reflect the balances in the Standards and help students meet the Standards' rigorous expectations, by giving appropriate attention to: developing students' conceptual understanding; procedural skill and fluency; and engaging applications.
 - Materials meaningfully connect the Standards for Mathematical Content and the Standards for Mathematical Practice.
- Provide Instructional Supports and Usability
 - Materials are well designed and take into account effective lesson structure and pacing.
 - Materials support teacher learning and understanding of the Standards.
 - Materials offer teachers resources and tools to collect ongoing data about student progress on the Standards.
 - Materials support teachers in differentiating instruction for diverse learners within and across grades.

Review Process

Participants:

All Meyer MS Math Department Staff, Meyer MS Administration, K-5 Math Coach and Director of Academic Services.

Steps:

- Reviewed Curriculum Resources that met our initial screening process
- Contacted other School District's
- Participated in Vendor Presentations
- Reviewed National Council for Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Best Practices in Selecting a Curriculum Resource

Review Process & Timeline

Timeframe:

- Winter/Spring 2019 - Initial Planning
- Summer 2019
 - Developed review rubric
 - Researched curriculum resources
- August 2019 - April 2020
 - Teacher collaboration & review of math curriculum resources
 - Vendor presentations
 - Narrowed down the selection to four (4) remaining resources
(*Big Ideas*, *Illustrative Mathematics*, *College Prep Math (CPM)*, and *Into Math*)
 - Second vendor presentations
 - Final Selection (*Into Math*)

Review Process & Timeline

- Contacting other Districts regarding program use
- Committee collaboration and final decision
- May 2020 - Negotiations and Budget Considerations
- June 2020 - Purchase and Prepare for Implementation

Next Steps:

- Onboarding Staff with Professional Development & Coaching Support
- Full Implementation Fall 2020

Questions & Comments

Elementary Bookroom Updates

Following our adoption of new K-5 English Language Arts curriculum resources selected (2018-19 School Year), we have taken additional steps to update our Elementary School Bookrooms for the upcoming school year.

A bookroom is a shared instructional resource that provides teachers with a greater range of books for their readers and for their instructional goals. It is meant to become an integral part of a teacher's or grade-level team's planning for meaningful, targeted instruction for all students. It's a space where teachers can go to meet with other teachers or visit on their own. It is the perfect complement to a school library and well-designed classroom library. Essential elements include authentic quality literature, culturally relevant and accurate, books that inspire children to think and question, and books that align with the school's curriculum.

Current bookrooms contain materials that are outdated, do not support the literacy instruction that is occurring in our classrooms and often lack student interest. Additionally, we want to expand the range of reading levels available to all of our readers during their Guided Reading instruction.

Elementary Bookroom Update – Process

Bookroom Audit was conducted with our Literacy Coaches in consultation with our resource representative:

Bookroom Quality

- The bookroom contains titles designed for guided reading. It should not contain phonics readers or trade book titles that would be included in classroom libraries.
- The bookroom should contain a ratio of 50% Fiction to 50% nonfiction.
- Bookroom materials should reflect cultural, racial, and socioeconomic diversity; and provide windows, mirrors and sliding glass doors for students.
- The bookroom contains a blend of current resources, as well as classic, high-quality materials.
- All titles should have a minimum of six copies per title.
- The bookroom should contain books from a variety of publishers.

Elementary Bookroom Update – Process

Bookroom Management

- Committee and team to make decisions regarding these literacy materials
- Regular usage by all staff of bookrooms
- The bookroom is located in an inviting space that is easily accessible to staff.
- The bookroom is well-organized and processes in place for checking titles in and out.

RFSD Goals

- Provide additional inter-disciplinary books, more diversity, genres, and student engagement.
- To increase the number of books containing Social Studies content alignment
- To increase the number of books that support our District's *Equity, Inclusivity and Diversity* work.

Elementary Bookroom Update – Process

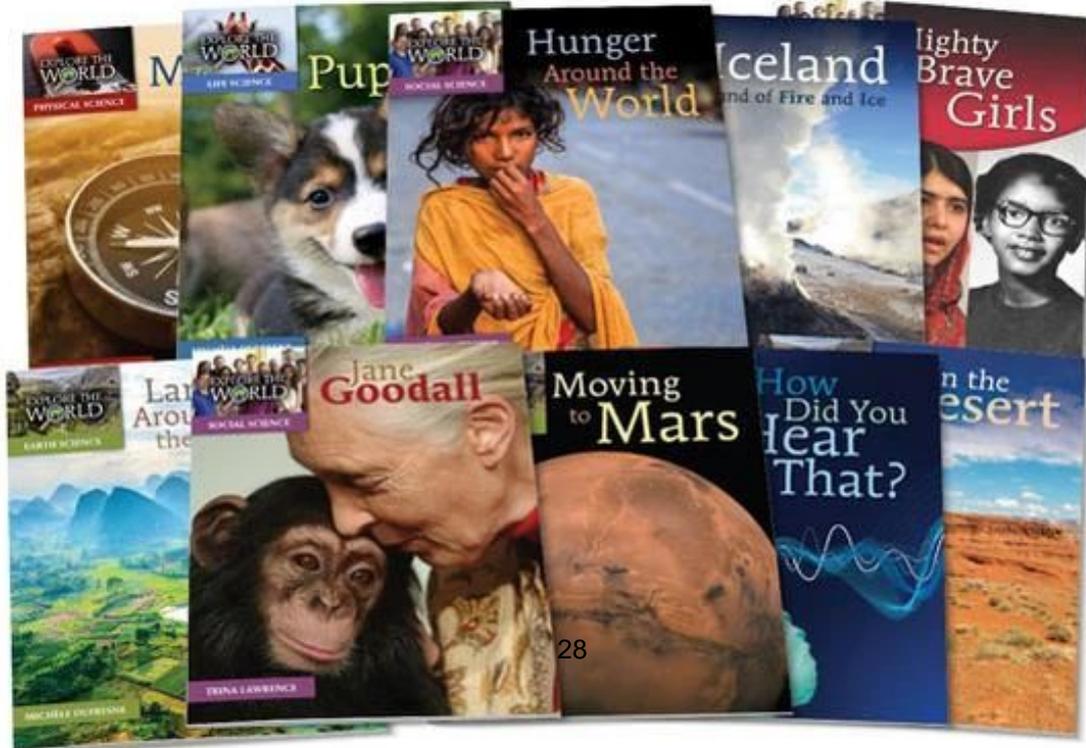
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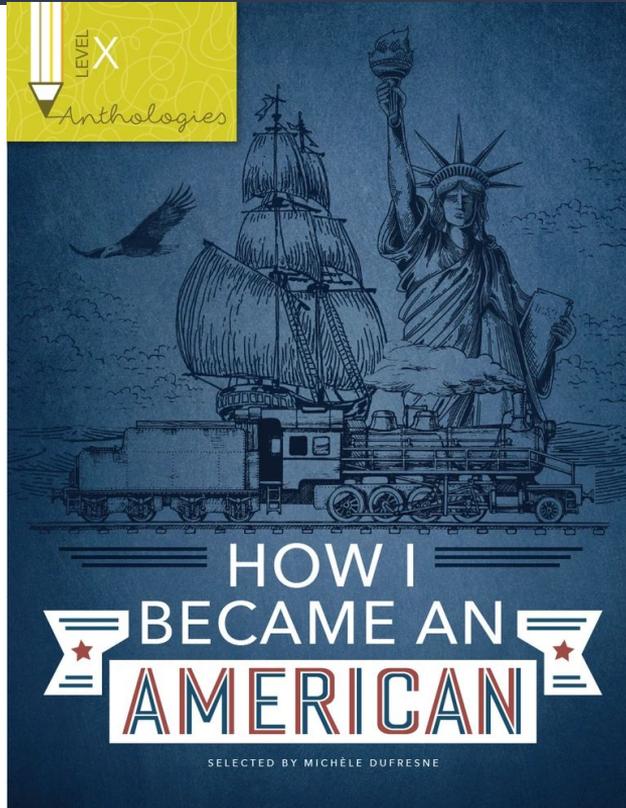
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- Provide additional inter-disciplinary books, more diversity, genres, and student engagement.
- To increase the number of books containing Social Studies content alignment.
- To increase the number of books that support our District's *Equity, Inclusivity and Diversity* work.
- Focus on authentic literature for students. ²⁷

Elementary Bookroom – Sample Resources



Elementary Bookroom – Sample Resources



This 36-page compendium features seven short Level X reads for guided reading, all related to a single topic. Each fiction and nonfiction piece is designed to be completed in one 20-minute guided reading session and boast text features and comprehension focuses that are crucial for fluent readers.

Includes:

- Celebrating Citizenship!
- Working on the Railroad
- The Mop Bucket Encore
- The Last Gobble
- Immigrants from around the World
- Gateway to America
- Hauntings

Elementary Bookroom – Sample Resources

Additional Book Selections:

<https://pioneervalleybooks.com/products/civil-rights?variant=17590369648697>

<https://pioneervalleybooks.com/products/anthologies-t-it-s-our-right?variant=17590382264377>

Elementary Bookroom Update – Process

Who Was Involved

- Literacy Coaches & Director of Academic Services
- Building Level Literacy Coaches
- Grade Level English Language Arts Leaders
 - Representation from each Grade Level
 - Representation from each Elementary School
- Building Principal Support

Next Steps

- Purging current outdated resources .
 - Books that don't support best practices in Literacy instruction
 - Outdated by copyright
 - Books in poor condition
- Repurposing some books into Classroom Libraries; Donations to Little Free Libraries
- Planning for Professional Development to showcase new instructional resources for all staff.
- Unboxing, labeling books, and setting up school bookrooms.
- Continuing to review books for ongoing additions & improvements.

Questions & Comments

| | Big Ideas | Into Math | Illustrative | CPM |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| Ed Reports | Foc & Coh: 13/14 Rig & MP: 11/18 Align: Part. Meet Ex Usability: NA | Foc & Coh: 14/14 Rig & MP: 17/18 Align: Part. Meet Ex Usability: 35/38 | Foc & Coh: 14/14 Rig & MP: 18/18 Align: Meet Ex Usability: 37/38 | Foc & Coh: 8/14, 8/14, 13/14 Rig & MP: 18/18 Align: PME, PME, ME Usability: NA, NA, 32/38 |
| Rigor | | | | |
| Standards Tracking Tools | Yes | Yes | Yes | ??? |
| Math Talks (constructing viable arguments) | Materials prompt students to construct viable arguments: 1/2 Materials assist teachers in engaging students in constructing viable arguments: 1/2 | Materials prompt students to construct viable arguments: 2/2 Materials assist teachers in engaging students in constructing viable arguments: 2/2 | Materials prompt students to construct viable arguments: 2/2 Materials assist teachers in engaging students in constructing viable arguments: 2/2 | Materials prompt students to construct viable arguments: 2/2 Materials assist teachers in engaging students in constructing viable arguments: 2/2 |
| Explicit Mathematical Practices | The standards for MP are identified and used to enrich math content: 2/2 Materials carefully attend to the full meaning of each mathematical practices standard: 0/2 | The standards for MP are identified and used to enrich math content: 2/2 Materials carefully attend to the full meaning of each mathematical practices standard: 1/2 | The standards for MP are identified and used to enrich math content: 2/2 Materials carefully attend to the full meaning of each mathematical practices standard: 2/2 | The standards for MP are identified and used to enrich math content: 2/2 Materials carefully attend to the full meaning of each mathematical practices standard: 2/2 |
| Conceptual understanding, procedural fluency, and applications is balanced, with explicit connections among the three | Conceptual: 1/2 PF: 2/2 Application: 2/2 Balance: 1/2 | Conceptual: 2/2 PF: 2/2 Application: 2/2 Balance: 2/2 | Conceptual: 2/2 PF: 2/2 Application: 2/2 Balance: 2/2 | Conceptual: 2/2 PF: 2/2 Application: 2/2 Balance: 2/2 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p>The materials are focused. Curriculum materials should give sufficient attention to the critical topics identified in the standards for each grade (the "major work" of the grade), so that students have the time and support to develop the identified proficiencies.</p> <p>Major Grade Level Work</p> | <p>Yes (EdReport)</p> <p>6th, 7th, 8th grade: 13/14</p> | <p>Yes (EdReport)</p> <p>6th, 7th, 8th grade: 14/14</p> | <p>Yes (EdReport)</p> <p>6th, 7th, 8th grade: 14/14</p> | <p>6th Grade: Partially Meets Expectations (8/14)</p> <p>7th Grade: Partially Meets Expectations (8/14)</p> <p>8th Grade: Meets Expectations (13/14)</p> |
| <p>Rich Math Tasks</p> | <p>???</p> | <p>Many developed by Robert Kapinsky</p> | | <p>Yes</p> |
| <p>Course Sequencing Options</p> | <p>Several Viable Options</p> | <p>Several viable options</p> | <p>Limited</p> | <p>???</p> |
| <p>Useful Teacher Tools and Resources</p> | | <p>Waggle</p> | <p>ALEKS</p> | |
| <p>Follow Up Questions & Responses</p> | | | | |

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity

Educational Programming Committee Update
July, 2020

Outcomes

- Summarize the work of the EID Committee since 2016
 - Focus on the committee's goals, actions, accomplishments, and areas of growth
- Discuss the Integrated Comprehensive Systems for Equity (ICS) Framework
 - Four Cornerstones of the Framework Overview
 - Deeper Dive into Cornerstone 1
 - History of Marginalization in Public Schools, Asset vs. Deficit Thinking, Identity Development, Equity Audit, Equity Non-Negotiables
 - Summarize progress districtwide
- Recommendations for 2020-21 and beyond
 - Committee structure and reporting
 - Universal ICS Cornerstone 1 Training
 - Student-Community-School Engagement
 - EID sub-committee work

Vocabulary

- **Equity-** We give people what they need, rather than giving all people the same (equality)
- **Inclusivity-** We make all people feel accepted, respected, and heard.
- **Diversity-** We respect and recognize all peoples experience and unique qualities
- **EID Committee-** Equity, Inclusivity, and Diversity Committee
- **ICS-** Integrated Comprehensive System
- **Social Justice-** Social justice refers to a concept in which equity or justice is achieved in every aspect of society rather than in only some aspects or for some people.

RFSD Equity, Inclusivity, and Diversity Timeline

2016-17

- Diversity Committee is created via RFSD Strategic Plan
 - Action Step 6.1: Educate students and staff about cultures and diverse populations via comprehensive diversity training (students & staff) as well as integrated classroom learning activities and curricular specific adaptations.

2017-18

- A team of administrators go through the Leading for Equity Academy (LEA) sponsored by AWSA. Team is introduced to Integrated Comprehensive Systems (ICS) framework.
- The district adopted ICS (Leading with Equity Presentation)
 - Advanced Training for School Leaders (*School Board Training, Admin-Summer Institute Training, Diversity Committee Trainings, Fall Equity Institute*)

2018-19

- Support rollout of ICS Cornerstone 1 Training for teachers and administrators
 - Module 1.0/1.1-History of Marginalization, Module 1.2-Asset vs. Deficit Thinking, Module 1.3-Identity Development
 - Equity Audit
- Connect with students and community
 - *HS Student Equity Trainings*
- Support and develop system awareness of EID.
 - Hiring Policy Review, Multicultural Perspectives, Holidays/Celebrations

2019-20

- Leverage the Equity Audit to Drive Change
 - *Priority areas → School/Student Learning Objectives*
- Analyze proposed Equity Non-negotiables to ensure alignment to District priorities.
- Provide opportunities for Identity Development strategies for teaching diverse students.

Assessment of Progress

- 'Too Safe' → urgency and competing priorities
- Reactive progress vs. proactive change
- Where are our areas of growth?
 - Lack of universal ICS training
 - Optional vs. universal professional development
 - Student/Community awareness of EID Priorities
 - Understanding student and community experiences
 - Attracting and retaining employees with diverse backgrounds
 - Systems of accountability to ensure EID is a district priority
 - Districtwide promotion of multicultural analysis of curriculum, instruction, and resources

Integrated Comprehensive Systems for Equity - Four

Cornerstone 1- Focus on Equity

- Step 1. History of Marginalization/Current Model
- Step 2. Deficit to Assets-Based Thinking
- Step 3. Equity Begins With Us: Identity Development for Systems Change
- Step 4. Apply Equity Research
- Step 5. Equity Non-Negotiables
- Step 6. Equity Audit to Drive Change

Cornerstone 4 - Leverage Policy and Funding

- Step 12. Transform Roles and Responsibilities
- Step 13. Leverage Funding to Eliminate Inequities
- Step 14. Align Policy and Procedures to Eliminate Inequities
- Step 15. Creating Our Action Plans

Cornerstone 2- Align Staff & Students

- Step 7. Teaming Structures for ICS
- Step 8. Re-align district office to eliminate inequities
- Step 9. Re-align staff and students to eliminate inequities

Cornerstone 3 - Transform Teaching and Learning

- Step 10. Co-Plan to Co-Serve
- Step 11. Identity Relevant Teaching & Learning for All Learners

Engage & Develop Community



Key Features of ICS Equity Include:

1. Research based on over 45 years of equity research.
2. Rather than piecemeal equity approaches, ICS Equity provides a Framework and Process to shift from a deficit to proactive education system for all students.
3. ICS Equity advances the learning of literally all students in the district. Students currently succeeding not only will continue to succeed, but will make additional achievement and social gains. ICS Equity also addresses racial inequities and the entire range of inequities across race, ethnicity, social class, ability, gender, sexual/gender identity and their intersections.
4. ICS Equity includes a built in accountability system via the Equity Audit that measures equity progress and serves as a continual improvement feedback loop to the ICS Equity work.
5. ICS Equity embraces a local, bottom-up/team approach to equity implementation.
6. ICS Equity reallocates existing resources. No new resources are needed and all current staff are needed to advance the work.

2020-21 EID GOALS

Revise organizational and reporting structure of the EID Committee

Ensure universal ICS Cornerstone 1 Training for Teachers and Support Staff.

IDI Training for Admin, EID, and Mental Health Teams (Social Worker, Counselors and Psychs)

Sub-Committee Work-LBGQTQ Awareness Campaign, Review Dress Code Policy, Review Holiday/Celebrations Policy

Design Hate/Bias Reporting System (align to discrimination/harassment complaint procedures)

Create a Land Recognition Statement

Recommend 2021-22 staffing plan to support EID goals

2020-21 ICS GOALS

Universal ICS Cornerstone 1 Training for all staff

BOE reviews and approves one Equity
Non-Negotiable per month

2020-21 Equity Audit and Analysis

Teacher training on evaluating curriculum and
instructional practices through a multicultural
lens

Professional Learning Communities (PLC) growth

- Level 1: Forming-->Develop a team structure aligned to ICS
- Level 2: Norming--> Protocols and commitments developed by each team that are aligned to ICS.
- Level 3:
Storming/Performing-->Collaboration agenda and minutes

2019-20 EID Community Engagement

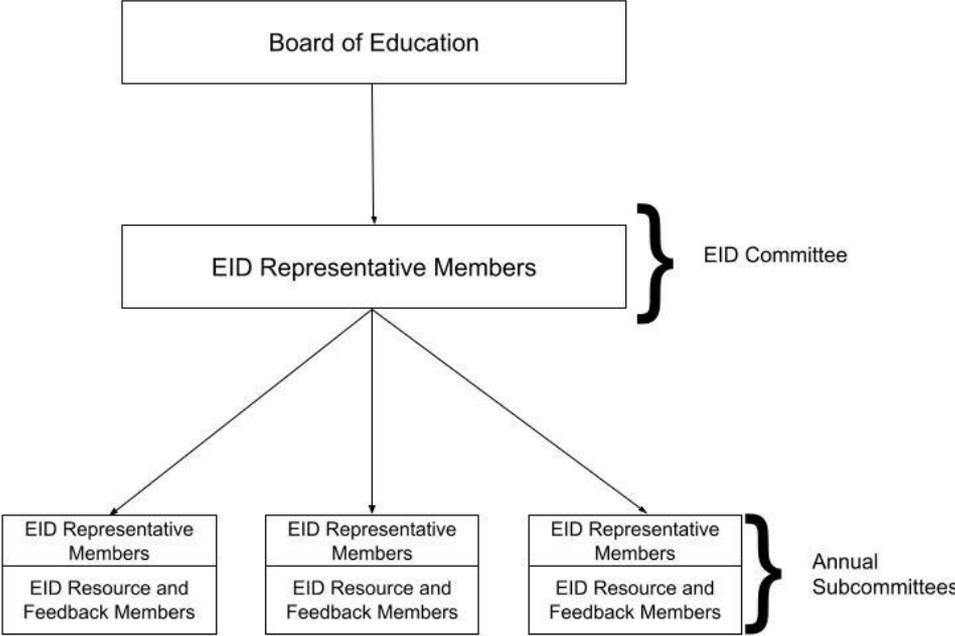
Community ICS Presentation

Student Experience Project

Mid-Year Review of Action Steps with Community

Use Mid-year and End of the Year Community
Engagements to Guide 2020-21

EID Committee Structure



The **EID Committee** meets monthly to discuss current work, provide direction and feedback to the annual subcommittees. All members are welcome to attend the monthly meetings. Monthly meetings will operate under Robert's Rules of Order.

Annual Subcommittees work on goals identified by the EID Committee. These subcommittees meet as needed to work towards the annual goals. Each subcommittee will have representative members assigned to help facilitate the work of the subcommittees.

2020-20 EID Organization Chart and Subcommittee Goals

