

Special Darien Board of Education

Curriculum Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 8, 2022

8:30 a.m.

Darien Public Schools' Administrative Offices

35 Leroy Avenue

Board of Education Meeting Room

AGENDA

1. Summer Curriculum Review
2. Looking Ahead: 2022-2023 Curriculum
3. Public Comment*
4. Adjournment

AA:nv

*** * The Board of Education meeting will be available to the public in person and via Zoom. Wearing of masks is optional and seating is limited by room capacity. Doors open at 8:15 a.m. for the 8:30 a.m. meeting.**

Those members of the community wishing to participate in public comment may join the meeting via Zoom:

<https://darienps.zoom.us/j/95945861792>

Those members of the community wishing to view only, should do so through the Darien Youtube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUnvyKBfFrTWQRuoB6OZA>

In order to reduce audio interference, members of the community are requested not to simultaneously view by Youtube while participating on Zoom.



Memorandum

To: Darien Board of Education Curriculum Committee
CC: Alan Addley, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
From: Christopher Tranberg, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
RE: BOE Curriculum Committee
Date: September 8, 2022

Curriculum governance is a paramount responsibility shared by members of the Board. Following the establishment of a BOE Curriculum Committee last fall, the committee received department updates and reports on special programs throughout the year.

While the full Board continues to vote on matters regarding curriculum, the committee was established to:

- receive and/or request curriculum studies or presentations on specific topics;
- review data to determine curriculum effectiveness;
- review curriculum updates from summer institutes;
- review curriculum of newly approved courses; and,
- ensure policy alignment.

The first committee meeting of the 2022-2023 school year will focus on summer curriculum work as well as a look ahead to the teaching and learning priorities for this school year. Continuing with a process of regular updates and transparency with teaching and learning, the following overview is suggested to support the committee's general workflow for the duration of the school year. The committee chair will work with administration to develop the agenda for each meeting.

September

- Summer Curriculum Update
- Looking Ahead: 2022 - 2023

October

- Art Department Update
- ELP Update

November

- New Course Proposals
- Math Acceleration Report

December

- SEL - RULER Update
- Budget Requests Preview

January

- Elementary Curriculum Update
- Gifted Education Report

February

- World Language Update (K-12)
- Health and PE Curriculum

March

- Music Department Update
- English Department Update

April

- Social Studies Department Update
- Science Department Update

May

- CTE / Library Update
- Instructional Technology Report

June

- Math Department Update
- Summer Curriculum Plan Report

Future Curriculum Committee meetings for 2022-2023

October 13, 2022	8:30 a.m.
November 10, 2022	8:30 a.m.
December 8, 2022	8:30 a.m.
January 12, 2023	8:30 a.m.
February 9, 2023	8:30 a.m.
March 16, 2023	8:30 a.m.
April 6, 2023	8:30 a.m.
May 25, 2023	8:30 a.m.
June 8, 2023	8:30 a.m.

A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a summer scene. The sky is light blue with a large yellow sun in the top right, several white clouds, and a red and white rocket ship flying in the top left. The foreground features rolling green hills and a brown ground line. On the ground, from left to right, are a stack of five books in blue, red, and yellow, a red apple, a white Erlenmeyer flask containing blue liquid, an open book with blue and white pages, a black mesh pencil holder with three pencils (orange, blue, and red), and a black and white microscope. The title 'SUMMER CURRICULUM UPDATES' is centered in the sky in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font.

SUMMER CURRICULUM UPDATES

September 8, 2022

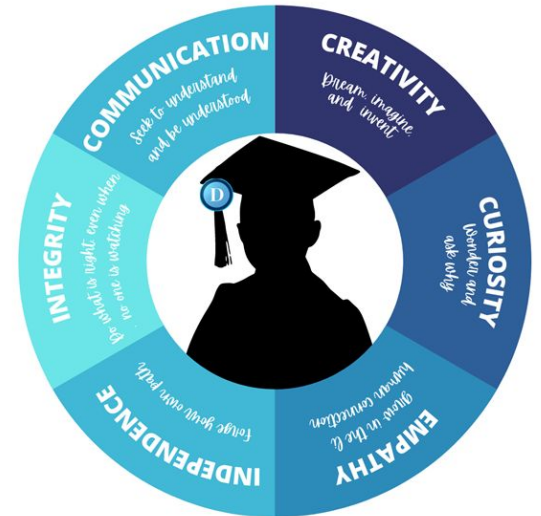
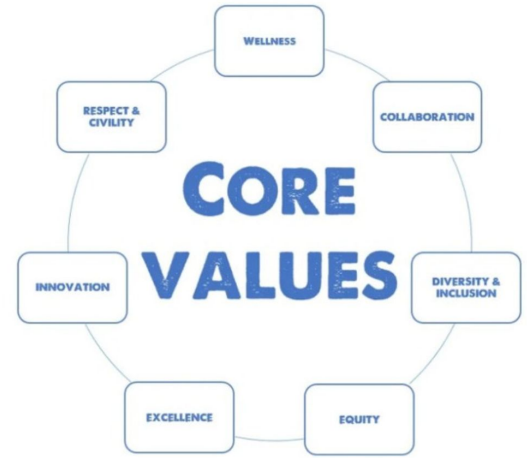
GUIDING DOCUMENTS

MISSION

Inspiring a love of learning in all students so they develop as critical thinkers and innovative creators who contribute to the world with integrity and purpose beyond themselves.

VISION

Preparing all students today to thrive in a changing world tomorrow.



Elementary Curriculum Work



LEARNING TARGETS

Developed student learning targets aligned to standards for all reading, writing and math units

SEL

Developed RULER scope and sequence and lessons for 2022-23, and PD for all staff

K-3 READING

Planned and implemented Foundations PD and developed 3rd grade differentiation plan

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Revised science and social studies teaching materials, post-covid





6-12 MATHEMATICS



TRAINING

Six teachers from
MMS and DHS
trained to work in
EduPlanet

ALIGNMENT

Updated documents
to align 300/400
courses

LEARNING GOALS

Collaborated on
knowledge, skills
understanding and
essential questions
for each unit of
study

EDUPLANET

Developed units of
study for Stage 1 in
EduPlanet



SUMMER CURRICULUM / 6-12 ENGLISH



ENGLISH A

Reviewed best practices for vocabulary instruction and embedded those practices throughout the reading units.



ENGLISH 10

Redesigned the course to place the focus on different perspectives and how they shape our understanding of storytelling, ourselves, and the world.



OTHER

Developed curriculum and lessons for new senior course (The Literature of NYC) and new blended learning elective (Digital Journalism).

6-12 ENGLISH: ENGLISH 10


One of the learning goals for our 300-level English 10 course is to broaden our students' perspectives, going beyond, through reading and writing in order to achieve a better understanding of the real world. This summer, the teachers of the course met to redesign the course to achieve this goal.

- The group began by prioritizing the course learning standards in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language usage. They also prioritized a VoG competency, an ISTE standard, along with key concepts and terms.
- These elements, along with the revised essential question of the course ("How does perspective shape our understanding of storytelling, ourselves, and the world?") served as the basis for the design of the final exam.
- Each unit was created in a similar backwards design manner, with the prioritized standards and essential questions driving the focus of the unit assessments.
- The literary content of the course was revised somewhat to allow for a greater focus on "perspective" (e.g. a shift from Macbeth to Twelfth Night).



THE SUMMER IN SOCIAL STUDIES



- 8th Grade revised a curriculum unit and completed Eduplanet21 planning for stage 1, 2, 3
 - 7th Grade revised a curriculum unit and completed Eduplanet21 planning for stage 1, 2, 3
 - 10th grade (World Studies 300) completed Stage 1 for all units in the course
 - 11th Grade (American History 300) completed Stage 1 for all units in the course
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6-12 SCIENCE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

SPRING 2022

Eduplanet training for department teachers

-Development of 6-12 Science Long Term Transfer Goals



Summer 2022

Review Scope and Sequence of Grade 6, 7 and 8 Science.

Review Scope and Sequence of 9th Grade Biology both 300 and 400 levels.


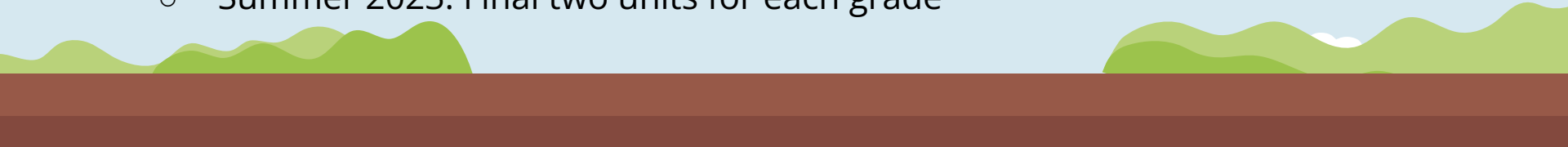
Development of Units: Stages 1, 2 and 3





WORLD LANGUAGES (K-5)



- Formed K-5 Curriculum team (Composed of K-5 WL Coordinator and two teachers)
 - Established **K-12 Long Term Transfer Goals** in summer
 - Curriculum work is in progress:
 - Summer 2022: Team met to finalize K-5 units creating our “Curriculum Overview” (Completed)
 - Team will now begin updating units adding them to EduPlanet
 - Work will begin mid-September
 - Goal: Two units per grade (K-5) by June 2023
 - Summer 2023: Final two units for each grade
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WORLD LANGUAGES 6-12

- Established **K-12 Long Term Transfer Goals** in summer; trained 6-12 teachers during August PD
- Curriculum work in “phases”: update current curricula and adapt it to EduPlanet
- Phase 1: a team of Department Chair and four teachers worked over the summer to add these courses - work is complete
- Phase 2: A new team will update these curricula and add them to EduPlanet during the school year - work will begin at the end of September
- Phase 3: Summer 2023

PHASE 1

MMS French 6
MMS Spanish 8
DHS French 2 + 2Ax
DHS Spanish 4 + 4H

PHASE 2

MMS French 7 + 8
MMS Spanish 6 + 7
MMS Mandarin 6
DHS French 3 + 3H
DHS Spanish 3 + 3H

PHASE 3

MMS Mandarin 7
DHS French 4 + 4H
DHS Spanish 1 + 2
DHS Mandarin 1
DHS Latin 1

DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL EXCEL PROGRAM

- Matched known curricula to areas of study - EXCEL Math, EXCEL Reading, EXCEL Writing, Life Skills, Community
- Strategised implementation plans in alignment IEP goals and objectives
- Created a calendar template to map out curriculum on the 8 day cycle month by month for the 2022-2023 school year
- Ongoing development of online platform to foster family carry-over and staff integration
- Created a plan to increase social opportunities for authentic integration during the school day

**EXCEL
MATH**

**EXCEL
READING**

**EXCEL
COMMUNITY**

**EXCEL
LIFE
SKILLS**

**EXCEL
WRITING**

TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING EDUCATION

- Vertical alignment of courses from grades 6-12 is being established over the course of the next three years
- [Course/Career pathways](#) for students have been established at the high school
 - Gaps in those pathways are being identified and addressed over the course of the next 3-5 years
- Sports Marketing has been added ('22-'23 school year) to fulfill a need in the Business Marketing pathway
- Principles of Engineering (P.O.E) has been updated to include a focus in robotics engineering

K-12 MUSIC



ALL MUSIC CLASSES

Established K-12 Long
Term Transfer Goals



MUSIC EXPLORATIONS GRADE 6

Entered all stages of
the Digital Audio
Production Unit into
Eduplanet



K-1 FIRST STEPS IN MUSIC

Developed Year 1 & 2
scope and sequence,
learning plan, and
resources binder



DISCUSSION



Looking Ahead: Teaching & Learning

September 8, 2022
Christopher Tranberg, Ph.D.



Overview

01

**Social and
Emotional
Learning**

02

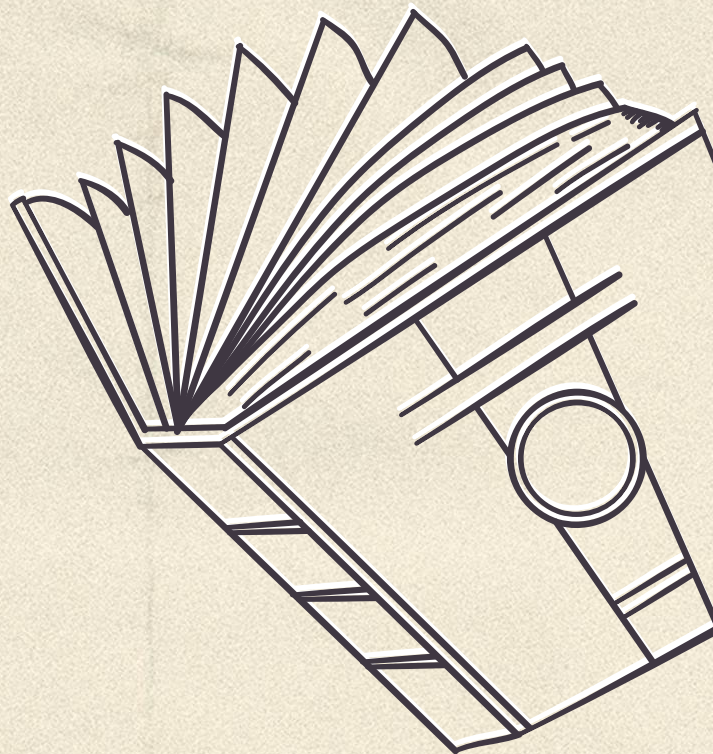
**Math
Acceleration**

03

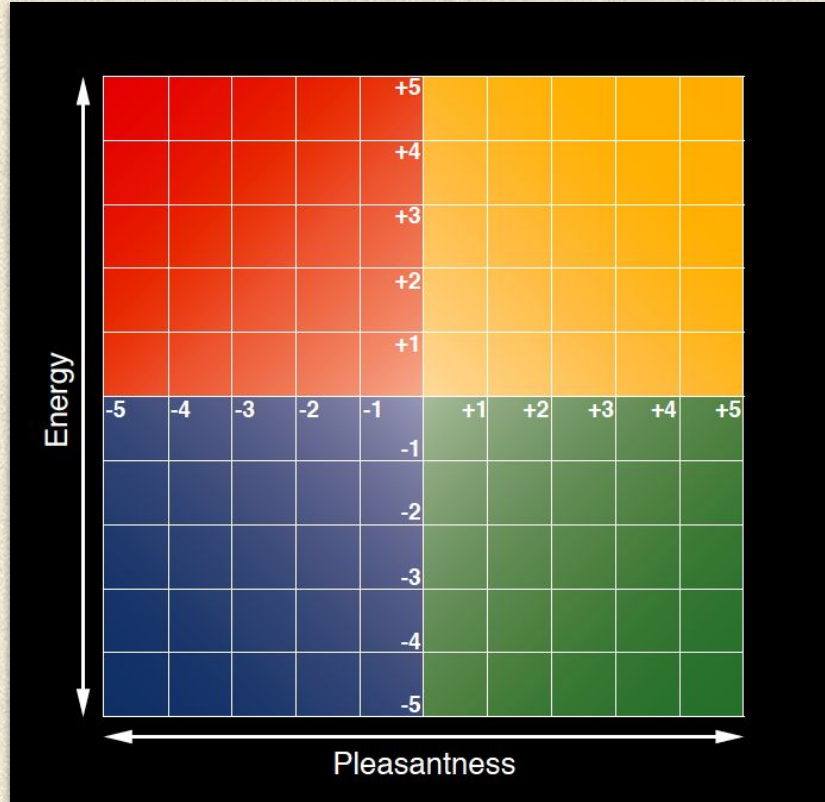
Gifted Education

04

**Teaching &
Learning**

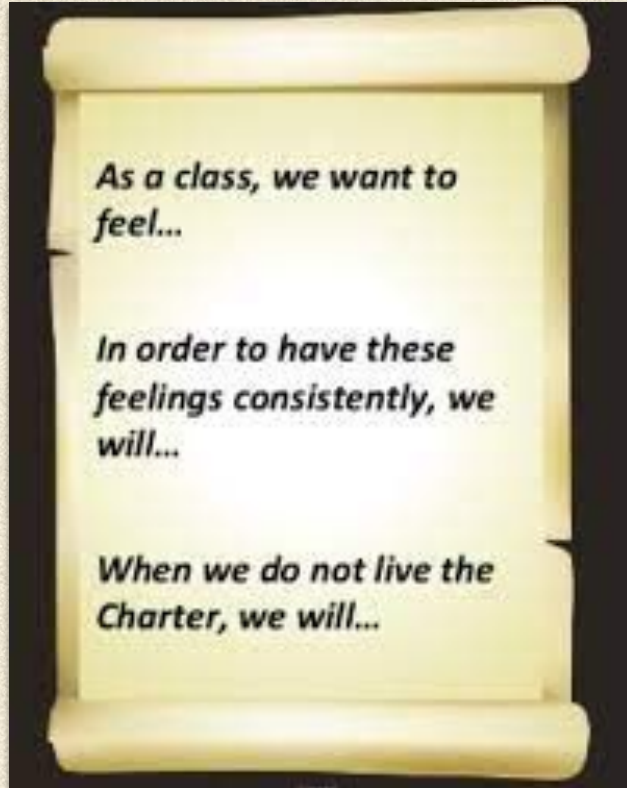


Social and Emotional Learning



- RULER Implementation
- CSDE Pilot SEL Screening
- District SEL Committee
- SEL Website w/ Parent Resources
- Revisit Health Curriculum K-12

Creating a Charter



Math Acceleration



- Recommendations for K-8
 - Differentiation
 - Compacting
 - Acceleration
- Multiple Opportunities for Access

Gifted Education



- Recommendations for Achievers Program
- Middle School Curriculum & Schedule
- Process for Talent Identification
- Indicators of Program Success
 - curriculum enhancement
 - personalized learning
 - evidence of growth

Teaching & Learning

Instructional Priorities

- Curriculum Unit Development & Revision
 - Revision of K-2 Reading Units
 - Migration of Curriculum to EduPlanet21
- Review of Social Studies Standards / Framework and Revision Timeline
- Review of Health Framework and Revision Timeline
- Monitoring Grade 5 Co-Teaching
- Interdisciplinary integration of ISTE Standards
- Interdisciplinary integration of VoG Competencies



Teaching & Learning

Developing Systems & Communication

- Finalize Principles of Teaching and Learning
- Continued updates of curriculum website and parent resources
- Develop new Teacher Evaluation and Feedback system aligned to CSDE guidelines



Discussion

