

Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2019

Instructional Materials Committee

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

Present:

Ahisha Avant
Sheri Blumenthal
Jackie Brown
Kelsey Cochran
Lauren Dolby
Melissa Edling
Jenny Foster
Brian Hampsh
Kristin Kim
Creighton Laughary
Matt Lavigne
Justin Talmadge

Absent:

Lindzie Adamson
Molly Harnish
Channing Martin
Melanie Ready
Kathy Shaner
Lisa Stewart
Rohan Tatum
Kelly Tran
Scott Weiss
Wenge Zhang

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm. Fred welcomed participants to the second meeting of the year.

Minutes from the meeting of October 16, 2018: Fred asked the committee to review the October 16, 2018 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved and will be posted to the Instructional Materials Committee website.

Everything I Never Told You, young adult novel

MIHS, Gr. 9 and Gr. 11 English, core instructional material for 2018-2019 and beyond

Written by: Celeste Ng

Published by: Penguin Books, 2015

Proposal submitted by: Freshman English Team: Kati McConn, Leslie Seelye, Dani King, Dani Melgar, Creighton Laughary, Greg Smiley

Because of its late submission, the IMC did not have ample time to read the novel or any online commentary. Fred advised that the IMC members need time to perform due diligence in evaluating this book. Therefore, an official vote will not be held. Because the MIHS English Team hopes to use the book as soon as possible, Fred asked committee members to learn about this novel by March 29. On that date, he will send a Google Form to members to provide their votes.

Kati McConn presented *Everything I Never Told You*, a young adult novel about a Chinese American family living in 1970s small-town Ohio. The MIHS English Team recommends this book for Gr. 9 Honors English and Gr. 11 American Studies. Kati shared the team's belief that this book would fit in with the current push for representation and diversity in MISD curriculum. This text is meant to align with other texts in the English curriculum, not necessarily to replace any of them.

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Written by a Chinese immigrant, this story features protagonists who are Asian American as well as biracial. Kati feels that it portrays a family in such a real and concrete way that she related to it even though she is not an immigrant or person of color. She mentioned that one of her biracial students saw herself in the story. The readability is good, but the themes are complex, providing the potential to engage deep thought and critical analysis. The team feels it is more suitable for mature 9th graders or juniors.

Vote: Justin Talmadge motioned to wait 10 days and vote via Google Form on whether to approve *Everything I Never Told You* as core material for MIHS 9th Grade Honors English and Junior American Studies starting in the fourth quarter of the 2018-19 school year. Kelsey Cochran seconded the motion. There were no abstentions. The motion passed. The final tally of the vote by Google Form revealed full approval to recommend *Everything I Never Told You*.

***T'es branché?* French 1-3 curriculum series of textbooks, workbooks, digital platform**

IMS and MIHS, Gr. 7-12 French 1, 2, 3 core instructional material for 2019-2020 and beyond

Written by: Jacques Pécheur and Toni Theisen

Published by: EMC and CLE International, 2019

Proposal submitted by: MIHS World Language Department-French: Deana Wiatr, Sabine Friedman, Jan Brousseau

Discovering Chinese Pro, Volume 1 and 2, including textbook, workbook, and digital platform

IMS Gr. 7-8 core instructional material for 2019-2020 and beyond

Written by: Chi-Kuo Shen, Bin Yan, Ran An

Published by: Better Chinese LLC, 2017

Proposal submitted by: MIHS World Language Department-Chinese: Zhousu He, Alice Chang, Karen Tang

Diana presented *T'es branché?* as a core curriculum French series to teach beginning French to Intermediate French, grades 7 through 12. When the curriculum is released this fall, students will have access to modern teaching methodology which includes an iPad platform and integrates Schoology and Quizlet. For teachers, the Integrated Performance Assessments (IPAs) included in the package are an important modern testing technique. This curriculum takes a holistic approach to communication. It provides a lot of resources including graded readers.

Zhousu presented *Discovering Chinese Pro* as core curriculum to teach Chinese to middle school beginners with no background in the language. Like *T'es branché*, *Discovering Chinese Pro* has a wealth of resources including fully developed iPad apps for students and teachers.

MIHS Principal Jenny Foster expressed her appreciation for the thoughtful diligence of the IMS and MIHS World Language teams in their quest to update the curriculum.

Vote: Justin Talmadge motioned to approve *T'es branché?* as core material for IMS and MIHS Gr. 7-12 French 1, 2, 3 for 2019-2020 and beyond. Jenny Foster seconded the motion. There were no abstentions. The motion passed.

Vote: Justin Talmadge motioned to approve *Discovering Chinese Pro* as core material for IMS Gr. 7-8 for 2019-2020 and beyond. Matt Lavigne seconded the motion. There were no abstentions. The motion passed.

Vote: Justin Talmadge motioned to approve an upgrade of EMC's Passport online portal for the high school for 2019-2020 and beyond. Matt Lavigne seconded the motion. There were no abstentions. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.