

Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2023

Instructional Materials Committee

Facilitator: Jamie Prescott, Director of Learning Services • Secretary: Vanessa Adams, Learning Services

Present

Mary Jo Budzius
Adil Chaudrey
Chris Cocklin-Ray
Tyler Duell
Liz Evans
Alex Perry
Kristy Siekhaus
Brittney Starks
Kim Thomas
Jon Wollmuth

Absent

Alyson Burks
Roxane Chan
Beth Christofferson
Ryan Hsi
Sharon Jarnigan
Kati McConn
Erica Ottesen
Sophie Prock
Mia Shi
Beilan Wang
Alexandra Weil
Vivian Zhou

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 PM and held via Zoom Video Conferencing. All members present introduced themselves.

National Geographic - Biology – Textbook and supporting materials

Grade 10 Biology – **Core Instructional Material**

Written by: Catherine Workman and Catherine L. Quinlan

Published by: National Geographic | Cengage Learning, Inc., 2024

Proposal submitted by the 2023 High School Biology Textbook Adoption Committee: Larry Bencivengo-HS Science Teacher, Jamie Cooke-HS Science Teacher/Instructional Coach, Zachary McCauley-HS Science Teacher, Julia DeBroux-HS Science Teacher, Patty Weston-HS Science Teacher, Jamie Prescott-MISD Director of Learning Services

Jamie Cooke and Larry Bencivengo presented the proposal. They shared that the current Grade 10 Biology textbook is more than 10 years old and the field of biology has changed. Also, the current textbook does not include important advances such as the CRISPR-Cas9 gene-editing technology. This is covered in detail in the new textbook. The new textbook also includes extensive online support, such as an online textbook with read-aloud and other assistive technologies, a virtual Learning Log and Lab Notebook for each student, online Review Worksheets, and dynamic, open-ended Virtual Lab Investigations which have been created as exclusive content for this textbook. There are also exclusive video introductions for each chapter featuring a diverse group of scientists explaining their research which is related to the Driving Question for each unit of study in the text.

The committee provided public access to the biology textbooks under consideration and received no input.

Larry spoke about the need to the update to the newest edition of the textbook currently in use by AP biology students, which was published in 1992.

Vote: Alyson Burks motioned to approve the *National Geographic - Biology* textbook and supporting materials as core instructional material for Grade 10 Biology for the 2023-24 school year and beyond. Kristy Siekhaus seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mercer Island School District Learning Services

Vote: Liz Evans motioned to approve the update to the newest edition of the textbook currently in use by AP Biology students for the 2023-24 school year and beyond. Kristy Sieckhaus seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Vote: Jon Wollmuth motioned to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2023 IMC meeting. Alyson Burks seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 PM.