

CURRICULUM COUNCIL MEETING

05/10/2021 4:00 PM-5:00 PM Board of Directors Room



Roll Call

Present: Laura Alexander, Taylor Burkholder, Melinda Curran, Lauren Doyle, Hana Gomma, James Grandi, Greg Knowles, Guerline Laurore, Sun Mullins, Lewis Shaw, Kathy Sicher, Jeffrey Smith, Tricia Steiner, Heidi Stine, Dave Sweigert, Shari Taylor-Stuckey, Erick Valentin, Lisa Wang, Stacy Winslow

Write-ins: Monica Breiner, David Lillenstein, Crystal Paukovitch

1. Call to Order

Minutes

Dr. Winslow called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm

2. Review of Summary Notes

3. Informational

3.a. Curriculum Council Goals

Minutes

Dr. Winslow discussed a recommendation to maintain the current goals for the 2021-2022 school year. These are all goals we will want to continue to work through. Please review the attached goals and offer Dr. Winslow or Dr. Cronin your thoughts or suggestions. At our next meeting we will discuss the suggestions offered. Dr. Smith will update the Council on the High School Grading System based on Goal #3.

4. Items for Discussion

5. New Business

5.a. Textbook Adoption: Catch-Up Readers

These materials would have an impact on approximately 130-135 third grade through fifth grade Reading Intervention and ELD students, as well as seven staff members (six Reading Intervention teachers and one ELD teacher).

It is often very difficult to find age appropriate, hi-interest, decodable books for older, struggling readers but we found them! After purchasing a few sets of "Catch-Up Readers" this year through a grant and utilizing them in our reading intervention instruction, we have found that these exciting stories and instantly engaging illustrations interest even our most reluctant older readers. Written especially for "catch-up" readers, these hi-interest, decodable book series ensure reading success and build confidence. We want our students to be excited about reading! These decodable books, games, and activities align with the

Science of Reading (SOR) research on which we base our Reading Intervention and ELD programs. The materials will enhance our SOR reading intervention and ELD instruction in phonics and comprehension instruction by engaging students who are struggling to read. By purchasing one set per teacher, we would be able to utilize our iPads as document cameras to share materials on our existing Smartboards and large digital screens. Books will also be pulled together to make small group sets as needed. We are excited about finding these materials and are passionate about sharing them with our at-risk students!

Attached is a purchase requisition and a screen shot of the items we would like to purchase from High Noon Books.

Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Sicher to approve seven sets of Catch-Up Readers for a first read, seconded by Tricia Steiner. All were in favor of approving these books for a first read.

5.b. Textbook Adoption: Myers' Psychology for the AP Course: 3rd Edition

The Myers 3rd Edition text is widely regarded as the "gold standard" for High School AP Psychology. Currently HHS AP students utilize Myers 2nd edition, And David Myers has received countless accolades for his expertise in writing detailed yet very relatable and accessible content. Every year, I have students tell me that this "the best textbook I have ever used," which is not something that the average high school student would volunteer without prompting!

What makes 3rd edition unique and a highly desirable upgrade is its alignment with the new CED (Course and Exam Description) Two years ago the College Board performed an audit and major re- working of the AP Psychology CED, a process that brought major changes to the content and how it is sequenced. Entire concepts and units were abandoned based on new research (hypnosis, learning styles, multiple intelligences) and very importantly, they consolidated and re-organized the remaining content to better streamline the massive amount of material that needs to be covered. The Myers 3rd Edition latched onto these changes and modified their units and sequence to perfectly mirror the new CED. This is an invaluable improvement, as the 'old' way required quite a bit of extra maneuvering and jumping around the text to present the info aligned to the new CED, whereas Myers 3rd Edition has repackaged to blend seamlessly. To my knowledge, this is the only textbook on the market that is

100% updated and aligned to reflect the new CED, which is the primary reason that we have selected it. Myers 3rd also has the 'Launchpad Program,' virtual/digital access for remote learners or general online review.

Other perks: Annotated teacher edition, test banks, "clicker" reviews, resources flashdrive, image slides, lecture slides, quizzes, PD videos, review videos for each module, review MC questions for each unit, review FRQ's for each unit, AP exam practice questions, Summative quizzes, unit overview videos, psychsim simulations, Strive for a 5 review book answer key.

Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Sicher to approve Myers's Psychology for the AP Course: 3rd Edition for a first read, seconded by Tricia Steiner. All were in favor of approving this textbook for a first read.

5.c. Textbook/Program Adoption: Strong Kids

The evidence-based Strong Kids Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) programs consist of 12 carefully sequenced lessons that are designed for maximum impact on cognitive, affective, and social functioning within a relatively brief period of time and relatively little preparation and training. Through age-appropriate engaging and thought-provoking classroom activities, students explore their feelings and learn social-emotional skills they'll use for the rest of their lives: managing anger, reducing stress, solving interpersonal problems, and much more. Each curriculum runs for 10-12 weeks, and lessons are easy to fit into an existing schedule (especially with the new options for breaking them into smaller chunks). Partially scripted lessons, handouts, and worksheets are included—all photocopiable and available as downloads—so teachers have everything they need to implement the program with little added cost or preparation.

Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Sicher to approve the program adoption of Strong Kids for a first read, seconded by Tricia Steiner. All were in favor of approving this program for a first read.

6. Old Business

7. Public Comment

8. Next Meeting - June 14, 2021

9. Adjournment

Minutes

Kathy Sicher motioned for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:47 pm