



**Fairbanks North Star Borough School District  
Board Curriculum Committee  
A G E N D A**

**Date:** December 7, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

**Location:**

- In-person: FNSBSD Administrative Center, 520 Fifth Avenue, Boardroom, Fairbanks, AK 99701
- Join through Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86911218946>
- Participate by phone:
 

1-888-788-0099 (Toll Free)	Webinar ID: 869 1121 8946	*6 mutes and unmutes.
1-877 853 5247 (Toll Free)		*9 raises a caller’s hand.

**A. PRELIMINARIES**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Land Acknowledgement Statement:** As a standing committee of the School Board, we would like to take this moment to acknowledge we are residing on the traditional land of the Dena (pronounced duhNAY) people.

**3. Mission Statement:** Our mission is to provide an excellent, equitable education in a safe, supportive environment so all students will succeed and contribute to a diverse and changing society.

**4. Roll Call**

Rachel Blackwell  
Brooke Freeburg  
Leslie Greenfield  
Loa Hubbard  
Mariko Kinikin  
Don Larson  
Matt Mertes  
Devra Norling

Renee Peterson  
Suzanne Richards  
Katina Sammons  
April Scott  
William Voelkerding  
Alexis Walker

**Nonvoting Members**  
Chane Beam  
Robert Burgess

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- Recommend approval of the meeting agenda for December 7, 2023.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Recommend approval of the meeting minutes for October 5, 2023.

**D. HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE CURRICULUM**

- Summary of public comment on draft two & writers’ responses.

**E. ART, MUSIC, & WORLD LANGUAGE UPDATE**

- Community survey

**F. CTE UPDATE**

- Curriculum revision
- AMPED ON ALGEBRA 1

**G. GENERAL COMMENTS/ QUESTIONS**

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

**Upcoming Board Curriculum Committee Meetings**

January 11, 2024  
February 1, 2024

March 7, 2024  
April 4, 2024

April 18, 2024 (tentative)

**Fairbanks North Star Borough School District  
Board Curriculum Committee**

**Minutes of October 5, 2023**

Ms. Burnett called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. in the FNSBSD Administrative Center boardroom, 520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, AK. Committee member attended in person and via Zoom.

**Members Present:**

Rachel Blackwell  
Leslie Greenfield  
Loa Hubbard  
Mariko Kinikin  
Don Larson

Devra Norling  
Renee Peterson  
Suzanne Richards  
Katina Sammons  
Alexis Walker

**Nonvoting Members:**

Chane Beam  
Melissa Burnett

---

**Members Absent:**

Matt Mertes  
April Scott  
William Voelkerding (excused)

**Guests:**

Tara DeVaughn

**Committee Support:**

Jen Morgan

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Ms. Norling moved to accept the October 5, 2023, agenda; Ms. Peterson seconded. Hearing no objection or comment, the motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Ms. Richards moved to accept the minutes from the September 7, 2023, meeting; Ms. Peterson seconded. Hearing no objection or comment, the minutes were approved.

**SCIENCE CURRICULUM**

Ms. DeVaughn briefly explained the proposed changes in draft one and then went over the decisions the writers came to for draft two after reviewing all public comment and teacher feedback. She drew attention to an updated list for life science, physical science, and science elective options, including Career and Technical Education courses. She also presented some pathway options for high school students. Discussion ensued for both topics.

**ART, MUSIC, & WORLD LANGUAGE UPDATE**

Ms. DeVaughn explained that this year is the research stage for Art, Music, and World Language, and gave an update. The district is sending three world language teachers to a conference in Anchorage next week, and it will provide the opportunity for them to speak with other world language teachers from across the state about national trends, standards, etc. At the next committee meeting, Ms. DeVaughn will have a parent and community survey available.

Ms. Kinikin mentioned she is often approached by secondary teachers looking for general music materials for an elective course like music appreciation. There is a need for these types of materials.

**GENERAL COMMENTS/ QUESTIONS**

Ms. Kinikin asked if it is common practice to have Advanced Placement courses stacked with its counterpart class, for example AP Chemistry stacked with Chemistry in the same period with the same teacher. Mr. Beam stated that it depends on the school, but this can happen, especially at smaller schools.

Ms. Richards reiterated the need for reading points under curricular areas. When teachers look at the curriculum, there should be suggested supported reading activities in every curricular area.

Mr. Larson asked if there is any movement to use open source textbooks in the district. Ms. DeVaughn responded that yes, in the last few years, the district has looked into and considered this during materials selection.

Mr. Larson also stated that the University of Alaska Fairbanks has a biology syllabus available online, if the

curriculum writers are interested in looking at it.

Ms. Burnett mentioned this may be her last Board Curriculum Committee meeting as the chair person. The School Board is reorganizing all committees on October 30<sup>th</sup>. She thanked Mr. Beam for his help over the last year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Larson moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Richards seconded. Hearing no objection or further comment, the meeting was adjourned 6:26 p.m.

DRAFT