



Approved
**MINUTES OF SECONDARY SCIENCE CURRICULUM ADOPTION
COMMITTEE 2023-2024
SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48
SUSD Oak Campus, 7501 E Oak St, Scottsdale, AZ 85257**

Date: Monday, January 8, 2024 Time: 3:30 - 5:30 pm

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:33 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present: Nagib Balfakih, Michael Bengert, Marissa Blanco-Johnson, Julie Koshy, Rissel Langbacker, Jen MacColl, Jodi Meyers, Jaclyn Papa, Kim Salaway, Michelle Watt

Absent: Steve Millam, Providence Ryan, Paula Sabato, Micah Sandys

No longer a committee member: Christopher Donovan

Chairperson(s), Committee Support -

Present: Kim Dodds Keran, Johanna Kaiser, Dede Johnston

The group reviewed Committee Norms.

Information/Discussion and Possible Action

3. Approval of 01/08/2024 Meeting Agenda - Information/Discussion or Possible Action Item
Johanna Kaiser

- Motion was made by Nagib Balfakih
- Seconded by Michael Bengert
- Motion was approved by all

4. Approval of 12/18/2023 Meeting Minutes - Information/Discussion or Possible Action Item
Johanna Kaiser

- Motion was made by Michelle Watt
- Seconded by Rissel Langbacker
- Motion was approved by all

5. Public Review of Materials -

Johanna Kaiser

- Current public review feedback submissions: 0

- Materials are on display and are available for the public to view at Oak Campus (7501 E Oak, Scottsdale, AZ 85257) Room 139 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm on school days.

6. Group Review of Materials and Discussions on Vendor Presentation Invites

Groups were provided with the number of reviews already completed per material by group as of 12/22/2023 and average scores. Groups then began reviewing materials as needed, analyzed scores, and discussed which curricula/vendors to invite to Vendor Presentation Days.

7. Vendor Presentation Selections

Vendor Presentation Selections by group and course:

- Group A Selections
 - Course: Earth and Space Science, Honors Earth and Space Science
 - McGraw Hill - Inspire Earth Science
 - Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - Earth & Space Science HMH Science Dimensions
 - Activate Learning - EarthComm

Rationale: The selected curricula were chosen for their emphasis on encouraging student thinking. They offer comprehensive teacher support, including resources for differentiation, online learning, and assistance for absent students. These curricula received the top three scores on the SUSD Science Adoption rubric, demonstrating their high quality. Furthermore, all three curricula deliver strong content and Activate Learning and McGraw Hill were noted positively for their pacing/content organization.
 - Course: Oceanography/Astronomy
 - Pearson - Essentials of Oceanography, Astronomy Today 9th Edition
 - Cengage/National Geographic - Oceanography, Foundations of Astronomy

Rationale: The selected textbooks for the year-long Oceanography/Astronomy course were paired by publisher to ensure continuity for both students and teachers throughout the academic year. The paired textbooks from Pearson and Cengage/National Geographic received the top two combined scores. The committee particularly appreciated Cengage's robust online instructional supports, advanced content, and customizable exercises and tests, which facilitate differentiation. Pearson was recognized for its strong instructional supports embedded within the curriculum and continuity between textbooks.
- Group B Selections
 - Course: Environmental Science
 - Cengage/National Geographic - Environmental Science Sustaining Your World
 - McGraw Hill - Environmental Science Inquiry and Application

Rationale: The two selected curricula received the highest overall average scores from group members according to the SUSD Science Adoption Rubric. Cengage was recognized for its comprehensive hands-on labs, while McGraw Hill was commended for its strong content-driven textbook. The group decided not to advance the SAVVAS textbook in the adoption process as an older version is

currently in use. The group found insufficient differences between the current edition and the newer one to justify further review.

- Course: AP Environmental Science
 - Cengage/National Geographic - Exploring Environmental Science for AP
 - Bedford, Freeman & Worth (BFW) - Environmental Science for the AP Course, 4th Edition

Rationale: The chosen curricula align with the sequence of the College Board's AP Environmental Science course resources. They were also the top two scoring materials on the SUSD Science Adoption Rubric. These materials were preferred over others for their three-dimensional approach. They offer robust extra resources for students to practice and apply their knowledge, as well as prepare for the AP exam.

- Course: Zoology/Botany, Honors Zoology/Botany
 - No materials were selected for further review

Rationale: After evaluating the materials using the SUSD Science Adoption Rubric, the group concluded that none of the submitted materials met the necessary criteria to proceed in the adoption process.

- Group C Selections

- Honors Astrophysics
 - Pearson - The Cosmic Perspective, 10th Edition
 - Pearson - Astronomy Today, 9th Edition
 - McGraw Hill - Explorations An Introduction to Astronomy, 9th Edition
 - Openstax - Astronomy, 2nd Edition

Rationale: The four selected materials advancing in the process received the top four overall average scores. The group highlighted that Pearson's products provided strong instructional supports. Openstax was chosen to proceed in the adoption process as an additional resource to an anchor resource due to its zero cost and its current use by the course's Dual Enrollment partner. The group will not receive a vendor presentation for Openstax.

The groups reviewed a set of sample questions intended for vendors. Groups selected and/or formulated questions specific to their group and content that will be given to vendors prior to their presentations. This was done to ensure that the vendors come to their presentations well-prepared to provide detailed responses.

7. Future Meetings

Johanna Kaiser

- Vendor Presentations - Week of February 5th
 - Group A (Earth and Space Science, Oceanography/Astronomy): Tuesday, February 6
 - Group C (Astrophysics): Wednesday, February 7
 - Group B (Environmental Science, AP Environmental Science, Zoology/Botany): Thursday, February 8

These presentations will be held at Oak Campus. Specific start times and presentation times will be sent out to committee members and posted to the website. Teachers will receive sub numbers to attend.

- Committee Meeting: Monday, February 12, 2024 from 3:30 - 5:30 at SUSO Oak Learning Campus, 7501 E Oak, Scottsdale, AZ 85257

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Dated this day, Monday, January 8, 2024.