

Northshore School District
CURRICULUM MATERIALS ADOPTION COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 4, 2023
3:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the CMAC was held remotely on Monday, December 4, 2023 via Zoom, and simultaneously broadcast publicly. Chairperson Ashley Andrews called the meeting to order at 3:34pm.

She reminded the group that this is ran as a webinar and guests are waiting until they are let into the room; and that it is also broadcast over You Tube as it is official public notice for NSD.

ATTENDANCE

Name	Present	Absent
Heather Miller <i>Co-Chairperson</i>	X	
Ashley Andrews <i>Co-Chairperson</i>		X- in advance
Doreen Milburn		X- in advance
Tamara Kelly	X	
Ayva Thomas	X	
Carolyn Urrutia	X	
Fernell Miller		
Janine Schmoll	X	
Trina (Katrina) Hilgers	X	
Kim Osgood	X	
Nancy Dodson	X	
Nandita Guilanians	X	
Niki Smith	X	
Iisaaksiichaa Ross Braine (Sounds like Eesock-uh-chee)		X
Shelby Reynolds (<i>Non-voting member</i>)	X	X
Sonja Hoeft	Arriving late X	
JoLynn Berge		X- in advance
James VanStralen	X	
Jessica Kido (<i>Non-voting member</i>)	X	
Cathy Barela (<i>Non-voting member</i>)	X	

The link to the CMAC drive was shared and members reviewed the May 5, 2023 minutes and the committee spent a few minutes reviewing as others trickled into the meeting.

3:33pm:

Heather introduced herself and welcomed the new 2023-24 Committee. Ashley Andrews is the other co-facilitator and is not available to join today.

3:35pm CMAC Team introductions. Members stated their name, location/position; years in CMAC. James VanStralen is new to the CMAC team, representing Secondary Administrators.

3:40pm In the drive is a CMAC slide deck (same as last year) that explains roles and purpose of the committee. Heather reviewed the slide deck briefly to ensure everyone understands CMAC's role at Northshore SD- making recommendations to the School Board for the adoption of curriculum materials. We reviewed meeting norms, processes for reviewing materials; student privacy; DRRs.

3:46pm: The team reviewed May 2023 minutes as-is. (Jessica: to fix Carolyn's name!) Carolyn moved to approved the May 2023 minutes as they are, and Janine Schmolli moved to second the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

3:52pm- Megan Bernicchi and Ebony Harvey- presenting a recommendation for "Simple Words Decodable Chapter Books" as District Supplemental Materials.

- Seeking to use as a supplemental resource in 3-5th grade; four decodable chapter books that include common sight words, clear font to increase accessibility. Not reviewing the free online PDFs that are available with the book.
- These support development of reading fluency and comprehension reading skills, benefiting a variety of students including multilingual learners.
- Field Tested/Pilot Process started during the 2021-22 Summer Reading & STEM Academy for rising 3rd and 4th students; then again for the 2022-23 Summer Reading & STEM Academy; for rising 2nd and 3rd students. Each in-person teacher (9 total) used it daily in a small group format.
- Feedback from staff was positive; the students were engaged at different levels as "book clubs" together and they added graphic book organizers to help students visualize the story.
- Instructional uses as book clubs or small group; not intended for read alouds or Round Robin reading.
- Professional Development- to support the roll out; TOSA to develop a "bite-sized" PD video plus connect with ELA leads.
- Funding:
 - Title III

- Cost per unit: \$105
- Est. number of units to be purchased: 168
- Shipping/tax: \$1,392.72
- Estimated total: \$19,032.71

- Distribution:
 - Each Elem school would receive at least 6 copies of each book
 - larger schools will get 12 copies of each book.
 - These are to be shared between 3-5th grade classrooms.

- Name of materials:
 - The Last Task
 - Spelling Pen in Elf Land
 - Spelling Pen Brass Lamp
 - Sam is Stuck

- Other:
 - Things to address during PD with staff: calling out the repetitive things (hence the “decodable” writing; which is different than a literature book) and provide staff strategies about how to use these books. Feedback from students: they felt proud they finished a book of this size and it encouraged them to continue reading.

 - These were already purchased with carry-over funds; due to the field testing procedures. (They were purchased as a summer school field test). Now, we are seeking CMAC approval for some of the books; not all from the set- just approving some of the books from the sets.

 - (4:08pm- time in recording for full description/notes).

Team Questions/Concerns before voting:

- Concerns from CMAC team members: multiple members did not care for the book.
 - using 4th grade teacher lens and librarian lens; did not feel these are worth the cost.
 - There’s no set up with the characters, seems like we should know who they were before reading. (Books may be necessary to read in order)
 - example: uses the words “got” and “a lot”. Teachers encourage students not to use those words in their writing so it is surprising to see that in a book. Hesitation to use a tool that does not model what we teach.
 - Vocabulary is confusing. Example: Griffin (character), obelisk. Dad lost his job at the “stamp factory” and worked at the “grill pub”- these are not terms we use. These could be not useful for multilingual students just starting out reading.

- Concerns with past and present tense moving back and forth throughout the book. Most members commented that they too were confused with the settings.
- These books feel like they want to be Magic Treehouse books but too many settings (different lands) and multiple characters.
- Stereotypes- the boy is the hero and no other strong characters. Seems like they tried to (predictably) frame the boy as a hero.
 - Niki suggested creating PD and finding those glitches; to create templates prior to the use of the books; to support the teachers.
- These seem to be a big cost purchase to be a “pilot /field test”.
 - This could have been a grant funded item (With Title III, the summer budget ends, “use it or lose it” and they found a way to utilize the funds)
 - What happens to these books if CMAC does not move a recommendation for board approval since they were already purchased.
 - If the committee decides not move forward, they will eventually get surplus and they will stay boxed in the warehouse- not used for curriculum.
 - Q: can we return pilot books for a refund? (Typically no, but we will look into it)
 - If we have already purchased these books and some students would enjoy them and could benefit from them, what is the harm in approving.
 - We want to trust the team who proposed the books and we want to trust their judgement, if they are seeing students successful and enjoying the books.
- Could we ask for more collection of student data- more teachers at multiple schools to hear how it works in the classrooms. If there’s a few students that absolutely love it, this could be worth it (simply because they have already been purchased).

(4:32pm) to add: Heather summarizes this:

- Question 1:
- Question 2: how do teachers use this (and can they address some of our questions, if possible)
 - Example: how did students do with the big words such as obelisk; or the past tense and present tense)

- Question 3: student feedback

There were no motions on this to bring this to a vote. We need more information.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- AP Stats Book- going to the 5th edition.
 - Same book 2nd edition has been approved by CMAC; 2nd edition is no longer available for purchase.
 - Comparing the two, there is not much of a change between the two books for material; just presented a slightly different way.
 - 5th edition has more current relevant examples (to real life examples)

Sonja moved to approve the 5th edition AP Stats Book, Nancy seconded the motion. All in favor to approve the consent agenda items, no opposed. The motion carries.

NEXT MEETING:

Might have one item, still collecting pieces.

The next meeting is February 5, 2024.

4:37pm ADJOURNMENT