

# Family Life Advisory Committee

Agenda: 02/08/24

5:00 pm to 6:30 pm



- Sign-in and Networking
- Approve November Meeting Minutes
- Discuss Opt-Out procedures for Elementary Level Lessons
- Updates to Family Life Unit (1<sup>st</sup> semester)
  - a. Feedback
  - b. Process
- Update on revised Opt-Out Form for Middle and High School
- Review Feedback from PreK to 3<sup>rd</sup> Lessons
  - a. Review/Summarize Collected Feedback
  - b. Feedback from Committee Members
- Discuss Future Topics

## **Family Life Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting date: 2/8/2024, 5:00 - 6:30**

**Attendance:** Kyle Blackburn, Ashley DiMaggio, Caitlyn Edmonson, Kimberly Evans, Amy Guilford, Logan Glynn, Alan Grasley, Alyson Guerra, Kelly Guest, Shannon Hinkhaus, Kellie Hurst, Dr. Amanda Jozkowski, Christine Kolb, Kate Maerten, Colette Moorman, Vera Paylor, Michelle Scobie, Erin Sipes, Donna Sivigny, Amanda Sullivan, Bryan Thompson, Chris Tobias, Bill Vandegrift, Bettina Wachter, Steve Wernick.

Motion approved to adopt the November meeting minutes.

The meeting began with Steve Wernick bringing HB 558 to the attention of the committee and noting that CCPS is already in compliance with the bill with the way we are offering our opt-out framework.

### **Elementary School Opt-Out procedures**

Steve briefed the committee on the process for next year. The opt-out email will be a standalone email that lists all framework from pre-K to Health II. The topics will be listed on the permission slip.

There was a good deal of conversation about the electronic permission slip and a possible split between elementary, middle, and high school. Chris Tobias said that she heard from several parents that they were annoyed with CCPS for making several attempts to ensure the parent had made a selection. It was suggested to modify the permission slip to let parents know that if they make a choice, the communications will stop.

The committee asked Steve to provide a draft permissions slip for review prior to the next meeting.

### **Feedback on current lessons**

Chris Tobias said that feedback from teachers and students was positive and that things went smoothly.

Chris met with elementary school lead principals on how to make the MSDE and CCPS versions work. Elementary principles are concerned that they ensure children get into the right section. Chris said they will likely set the elementary up like grades 4/5. Many elementary schools have 2 health teachers, so they could do the family/gender lessons in on 60-minute class.

## **Review & approval of materials**

Many people on the committee had a chance to see the materials but some had issues with the feedback document.

The puberty video for grades 3&4 will need approval at the next meeting. There is no change for 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

The committee voted on whether to take a vote at this meeting to approve books for pre-K and first grade. All were in favor except two who opposed.

It should be noted that these books are being approved for the MSDE version of the framework and not the CCPS version. The curriculum is not changing for the CCPS version.

The vote for each book was as follows:

| <b>Book</b>   | <b>Approve</b> | <b>Disapprove</b> | <b>Abstain</b> |
|---|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| "It's Okay to be Different" by Todd Parr  | 18             | 0                 | 3              |
| "Different? Same!" By Heather Tekavec   | 17             | 3                 | 1              |
| "Same, Same but Different" by Jenny Sue Kosteck-Shaw                            | 18             | 0                 | 3              |
| "A little spot of empathy" by Diane Alber                                       | 15             | 4                 | 2              |
| "Chocolate Milk Por Favor-Celebrating Diversity with Empathy" by Maria Dismondy | 10             | 6                 | 5              |
| "The Family Book" by Todd Parr  | 6              | 13                | 2              |
| "The Great Big Book of Families" by Mary Hoffman                                | 6              | 12                | 3              |

After the vote, a health department official questioned why parents who plan to opt their children out of the curriculum should have a say.

Meeting was adjourned after voting on books concluded.