

Cultural Responsiveness Review of Amplify CKLA

**School Board Update
April 15, 2024**



4K-5 ELA Adoption- Amplify CKLA

- On March 11, 2024 the School Board approved an expenditure of approximately \$1.2 million dollars for the purchase of Amplify CKLA-2nd edition (2022) to be used as our English Language Arts curriculum for grades 4K-5.
- The materials are in need of review and revision to meet our School Board Equity Statement.
- Latoya Holiday, Lisa Goldsberry, Katey Kamoku, Stephanie Leonard, and Rick Mueller are the Planning Team members who have worked as a team to establish a process for the collaborative review and modification of the 4K-5 Amplify CKLA English Language Arts curriculum.



Timeline and Action Steps- March 12-April 12, 2024

- The Planning Team met on March 15, 2024 to establish success criteria for the Amplify CKLA modification plan.
- Rick Mueller and Deb Larson collaborated with our CESA 6 literacy coach and SPASD educators to create an initial draft of the plan between March 18-22, 2024.
- Stephanie Leonard and Rick Mueller met with representatives from the American Indian Movement to seek their partnership in reviewing and modifying the materials on March 22, 2024.



Timeline and Action Steps- March 12-April 12, 2024

- Stephanie Leonard and Rick Mueller met on March 22, 2024 to review and revise the initial draft of the Amplify CKLA modification plan.
- Rick Mueller, Deb Larson, and Stephanie Leonard collaborated on April 1 & 3, 2024 to revise the plan for the Planning Team to review.
- Rick Mueller met with a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation on April 5, 2024 to seek her partnership in the review and revision of the materials.



Timeline and Action Steps- March 12-April 12, 2024

- Latoya Holiday, Lisa Goldsberry, and Katey Kamoku reviewed and provided feedback on the plan on April 6, 2024.
- Stephanie Leonard and Rick Mueller incorporated the feedback from the appointed Board members on April 8 & 9, 2024.
- The modification plan was shared with all of the members of the School Board on April 9, 2024.



Timeline and Action Steps- March 12-April 12, 2024

- The Planning Team will provide an update to the full School Board and community on April 15, 2024.
- The plan is a working document and subject to modification as we work through the process. Monthly updates will be shared with the School Board and accessible to the community on our district website.
- The Planning Team will provide monthly updates to the School Board and community.



Elementary English Language Arts

Introduction

Strong foundational literacy skills are essential for students to access learning in all disciplines and areas of life. Our current English Language Arts (ELA) instructional materials are not in alignment with **Act 20** expectations and the burgeoning research on the science of reading and the need to focus on foundational skills (systematic phonics and phonemic awareness). Investing in new instructional materials and providing professional development for staff in high leverage reading routines is a high confidence strategy to increase overall literacy outcomes, to close the opportunity gap for our students, and to meet the School Board expectations identified in Student Results Policy 2 (SR 2) - Student Academic Outcomes.

Our current ELA materials are eight years old which exceeds our typical six-year timeline for review and replacement of materials. We did not adopt large scale instructional materials during COVID. The new materials will be paid from the existing 2023-2024 Teaching, Learning and Equity budget and will not increase the anticipated budget deficit for this year. We hope to recoup a portion of the expenditure from the State of Wisconsin as we anticipate the Joint Committee on Finance will approve the Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) materials as reimbursable with the state funds allocated for Act 20.

Please see the **Executive Summary of 4K–5 English Language Arts Instructional Materials** to see how the work of our elementary educators will provide the resources needed in order to meet the learning needs of our students and the expectations of our community.

See our **Science of Reading** page for additional information.



Executive Summary of 4K–5 English Language Arts Instructional Materials



The Science of Reading



Wisconsin Act 20 Frequently Asked Questions

The Selected Resource

Presentation to the Board of Education

Alignment with Board Policies

- Student Results Policy 2 - Literacy
- Operational Expectation 3 - Treatment of Community Stakeholders
- Operational Expectation 9 - Communicating with the Public
- Operational Expectation 10 - Learning Environment
- Operational Expectation 11 - Instructional Programming



Modification Plan Success Criteria

- Create a committee of people with the training and experience in equity, diversity, and/or curriculum work that represent our diverse community
- Timeline of the work with key dates/deliverables (now through the start of the next school year)
- Clear pacing guides to publish by August 1, 2024
- Process for committee work
- Communication plan
- Professional development for staff



Success Criteria

1. **Create a committee of people with the training and experience in equity, diversity, and/or curriculum work that represent our diverse community.**
 - a. Staff survey has been shared to solicit educators to participate on the review and modification teams.
 - b. Parent/caregiver survey has been shared with all 4K-12 SPASD parents/caregivers to participate on the review and modification teams.
 - c. The Planning Team will review all applications and select committee members to participate that reflect our diverse community.
 - d. We will seek the advice of experts as full participants and/or reviewers- e.g. AIM representatives



Success Criteria

- 2. Timeline of the work with key dates/deliverables (now through the start of the next school year).**
 - a. The timeline includes milestones and clear action steps to engage in the review and modification work from May-September 2024.
 - b. Work will continue into the 2024-2025 school year.

[Schedule of Activities](#)



Success Criteria

3. Clear pacing guides to publish by August 1, 2024

- a. Schedule of activities and timeline for the work will result in a clear pacing guide by August 1, 2024.
- b. 4K-5 educators will receive pacing guide and supporting materials during back-to-school professional development days August 26-29, 2024.

[Schedule of Activities](#)



Success Criteria

4. Process for committee work

Amplify CKLA Analysis of a Unit for Culturally Responsiveness (Updated 4/9/24)



- Step 1: Lay out each resource side by side (Teacher's Guide, Student Readers, Images/Flip Book, Slide Deck)
- Step 2: Read the *Introduction* to ground in the goals and objectives (found first few pages of the *Teacher Guide*)
- Step 3: Read the review questions to orient yourself
- Step 4: Make notes in the table in the Detailed Lesson Review section
- Step 5: Complete the Summary & Recommendation section in order to prepare yourself for group discussion

Unit Overview	
Grade: Unit Number: Unit Name:	
Resources You Need For This Review ☐ Teacher Guide ☐ Student Readers ☐ Images/Flip Book ☐ Slide Deck	What Students Have Already Learned (included in the <i>Introduction</i> section of the <i>Teacher Guide</i>) List unit timeline: (# of lessons, pausing points, assessment and # of days to complete the unit)

Success Criteria

4. Process for committee work

Criteria for review...

1. Whose voices, perspectives, or experiences are *heard and centered* in this unit?
(This might be through texts, quotes, stories, examples, primary sources, video, social media, articles, etc.)
2. Whose voices, perspectives, or experiences are *marginalized* or *missing* from this unit?
3. What **identities** are included in this unit? Consider all facets of identity: race, religion, gender, gender identity, ability, socio-economic status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, family structure, language, citizenship, age, etc.
4. What groups of people are shown making **positive contributions** to the world in this unit?
5. How does this unit **connect to the lives, experiences and knowledge of your students**?
6. What **skills, understandings and cultural references** are missing from the curriculum that are needed for my students to be successful? (hidden curriculum)



Success Criteria

5. Communication plan

- a. Tonight's presentation is the first step in our communication plan
- b. District webpage established on the district website
- c. Planning Team monthly check-in meetings
- d. Planning Team monthly School Board updates scheduled through September 2024
- e. Uniform communication through elementary site newsletters monthly



Success Criteria

6. Professional development for staff

- a. Schedule of activities includes professional development for 4K-5 educators
- b. April and May professional development days are focused on the use of the instructional materials and the navigation of the Amplify CKLA electronic materials
- c. August Back-to-School professional development plans include pacing guide, supporting materials, and continuing professional learning on Amplify CKLA materials



Gratitude

- Thank you to the members of the American Indian Movement (AIM) who agreed to work in partnership with us to provide expertise as we review and modify the Amplify CKLA 4K-5 English Language Arts materials.
- Thank you to Latoya Holiday, Lisa Goldsberry, and Katey Kamoku for collaborating with Stephanie Leonard and Rick Mueller as Planning Team members.
- Thank you to the 4K-5 English Language Arts Steering Committee and our CESA 6 partners for contributing to the modification plan.

**Next update from the Planning Team - May 28, 2024
School Board Meeting**

