



OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION

Curriculum Council Minutes

Jan 13, 2023

Members in Attendance

Justin Ainsworth Associate Superintendent	Kendra Bartz Associate Superintendent	Jana DePriest Curriculum Coordinator
Sarah Notestine Curriculum Coordinator	Nicole Thompson Curriculum Secretary	Carrie Day Educational Technologist
Kathy MCCollum Board Member Guest	Tiffany Trice Teacher Guest	
Voting Members		
Jane Bulovsky Career & Technical Education	Peter Olson High School Asst. Principal	Janet Mclain Elementary Language Arts
Heather Rains Elementary Math	Alexis Griffiee Elementary Social Studies	Alexandria Byrd Middle School Science
Virginia Pettijohn Middle School Social Studies	Sarah Varland High School Language Arts	Katrina Nilson High School Math
Jamin Burton Fine Arts (Music & Art)	Laura Condon Secondary Counselor	Christine Duffy Special Education
Nathan Boleen Advanced Placement	Olivia Saunders District Wide Parent Advisor	Ben Kolendo Student Advisory Board Rep
Dorothy Hrcir (via proxy) Middle School Language Arts	Jennifer Dowd (via proxy) Elementary School Principal	Julianne Schultz (via proxy) Middle School Principal
Absent Members		
Kristina Cassidy Middle School Math	Greg Danner High School Science	Janelle Maki Library Media Specialist
Christa Hayes Physical Education/Health		
Open Positions		
English Language Learners	International Baccalaureate	Elementary Science

Council Welcome: Jana DePriest welcomed the Curriculum Council members and introduced Sarah Notestine as Secondary Curriculum Coordinator. She noted that the position has been split and Jana is the Elementary Coordinator.

Welcome Address: Justin Ainsworth, Associate Superintendent & Kendra Bartz, Associate Superintendent.

Call to Order: Jane Bulovsky Interim Curriculum Council President

Roll Call/Review of last Council Meeting: Nicole Thompson
Quorum was met.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve prior meeting notes. Motion to Accept: Jamin Burton, Second: Nathan Boleen. All in favor motion accepted.

New Member Vote: Motion to approve Colony High Assistant Principal, Peter Olson as high school principal representative.
Motion to accept: Jamin Burton, Second: Katrina Nilson. All in favor motion accepted.

ELA K-5 Materials: Magnetic Reading, Reading Reading & Writing and iReady:

Jana DePriest presented information on:

Alaska Reads Act, MSBSD's strategic plan for the AK Reads Act, Science of Reading, LETRS training, the process of curriculum adoption, curriculum review and materials adoption process, timelines, feedback, components and structure of the proposed adopted materials and resources.

Discussion: In-depth discussion among members regarding testing fatigue, components of ELA program, whether or not teachers would have a choice to have textbooks versus digital resources, the dyslexia screener, and program research data.

ELA K-5 Materials: Motion to approve ELA K-5 materials. Motion to accept: Jamin Burton, Second: Heather Rains. 17 in favor, 1 opposed motion accepted.

One member of the Curriculum Council needed to leave early and therefore did not vote on the AP and IB motions.

AP Program Proposal: The AP program proposal was brought forward by Jana DePriest. There were questions regarding what was being approved. It was clarified that all courses and future introductions of AP courses would be approved because they have already gone through a thorough vetting process with the College Board. Further, it will signal a committee formulation to make sure blueprints and frameworks are completed for future courses.

Point of Order: Heather proposed Point of Order Motion to limit discussion and debate to

items before Curriculum Council. Motion to Accept: Heather Rains, Second: Jamin Burton. All in favor motion is accepted.

Action Item: Virginia moved to amend language of proposed AP Program motion to: Advanced Placement (AP) course vetted by the College Board to be accepted as a program for the Matanuska Susitna Borough School District “following Office of Instruction Course Approval Process”. Motion to accept: Virginia Pettijohn, Second: Ben Kolendo. 5 in favor, 12 opposed motion failed.

Jane presents original AP Motion. 16 in favor, 1 opposed. AP program motion accepted.

IB Program: Approval of all International Baccalaureate (IB) courses vetted by the International Board to be accepted as a program for the Matanuska Susitna Borough School District proposal brought forward by Jana DePriest. Motion to Accept: Heather Rains, Second: Ben Kolendo. 15 in favor, 2 opposed.

Adjourned for lunch

Readjourn: 1:05 PM

Call to Order: Jane Bulovsky

Program of studies: Jane Bulovsky proposed review of Program of Studies on agenda be rescheduled to the next Curriculum Council meeting - Jane then withdraws motion proposal.

Agenda: Jane moved to delay and cut portions of Agenda and delay Program of Studies presentation to next curriculum council meeting. Motion to Accept: Jane Bulovsky, Second: Christine Duffy. All in favor.

Agenda: Motion to cut from the agenda Curriculum Cycle & meet and greet activity. Motion to Accept: Heather Rains, Second: Christine Duffy. All in favor.

Restructuring Discussion: Sarah discussed curriculum council restructuring and gave Curriculum Council and teams overview which includes: Content Area Specialist Teams, Curriculum Council, and adoption teams. Sarah Notestine presented a new Curriculum Council checklist and asked for feedback. Discussion began on Curriculum Council restructuring and how the Department of Instruction is struggling with filling council positions and proposed shorter terms and fewer members. The council expressed concerns over proposed term limits and fair representation from all content areas. Members also expressed concerns over lack of representation if membership is cut. Feedback was noted and will be brought to the Department of Instruction. Council members also expressed concern regarding surveys sent out. Discussions started on possible solutions and changes to surveys being sent out in the future. Student representative Ben Kolendo discussed concerns over student representation in

curriculum decisions.

ELA Adoptions: Sarah Notestine gave an update on the secondary ELA curriculum and timeline.

Wrap Up: Additional Comments

Council members also expressed concern regarding surveys sent out. Discussions started on possible solutions and changes to surveys being sent out in the future. Student representative Ben Kolendo discussed concerns over student representation in curriculum decisions.

Closing: Motion to adjourn meeting. Motion to Accept: Virginia Pettijohn, Second: Alexandria Byrd. Meeting adjourned at 2:53 by Jane Bulovasky.