

ELA Communications Curriculum Proposal

Proposal to Adopt Curriculum 2016



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Purpose

- The purpose of this presentation is to propose to the Board of Education the adoption of three courses under the umbrella of "Communications." These three courses include curriculum frameworks aligned to state standards with a 21st century focus on essential communication skills.
- > The courses are:
 - Speech Communications
 - Argumentation
 - Leadership in Action

Aligned to the 2016-17 Strategic Plan

Student Achievement Priority #1

We will implement and support a challenging, standardsbased curriculum across all content areas.

- -We have developed, will implement and will support challenging, standards-based communications curriculum that focuses on the individual growth of each student in high school at each of our sites.
- -Communication skills apply to all content areas. These courses give students the opportunity to strengthen skills necessary in today's competitive work place.

Rationale

- National and State Standards have been revised in the last two years to include speaking and listening standards.
- PARCC has been considering a listening and speaking assessment for students.
- Many high schools require a communications course for graduation credit. Many colleges require a communications course for entrance into the college.
- This proposal provides standards-based curriculum frameworks for two courses that currently exist and introduces a new communications-based course.

Meeting The Speaking and Listening Learning Standards

Comprehension and Collaboration:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1
 - Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.2 Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.3
 Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.4
 - Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.5
 - Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.6
 - Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

Writing Process

- Understanding by design framework training
- Collaboration: mapping the curriculum
- > Curriculum resource review
- Professional development planning
- Instructional Cabinet Steering/Instructional Cabinet
- Instructional Council Steering/Instructional Council
- > Board of Education

Speech Communications

Course Description

This course is for students who would like to strengthen their oral speaking skills. This course will offer a supportive setting to practice presenting to a variety of live audiences. In addition to public speaking, further performance opportunities include radio broadcast and interpretation. Students will analyze the role of communication in our lives.

Details

- Semester course
- Open to all students
- Students may choose to enroll more than once
- Classroom resource: The Art of Public Speaking

Argumentation

Course Description

This course is for students who have studied and practiced basic presentation and research skills to acquire more advanced debate and group discussion skills. This course is powerful for the avid reader of political and current-event issues. Students develop critical thinking and analytical skills along with logical and impromptu speaking techniques.

Details

- Semester course
- Open to all students
- Students may choose to enroll more than once
- Classroom resource: They Say, I Say

Leadership in Action

Course Description

This course is for students who have an interest in holding a leadership role in a community or political setting. Students will explore the principles of leadership, effective communication and presentation skills as well as research skills to acquire more advanced communication and facilitation skills.

Details

- Year-long course
- Open to all students
- Students may choose to enroll more than once
- Classroom resource:

The 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth 25 Ways to Win People Leadership for Students

Learning Outcomes

Students will be provided the experiences and effective instruction necessary to understand and practice speaking and listening skills through a variety of mini lessons and real world experiences.

- Collaboration Working together and learning how to problem solve individually and in groups during structured and unstructured activities.
- Self-Direction Inquiry and personal reflection that supports individual goal setting to improve communication.
- Critical Thinking Going deeper into topics and ideas to be able to make informed communications.
- Informational Literacy Researching to untangle information by understanding valid and invalid reasoning and facts.

Curriculum Implementation

Spring/Summer 2017

- Purchase of text resources for Speech Communications and Argumentation.
- Course name changes for Speech and Debate.
- Professional development for Speech Communications and Argumentation teachers to unpack standards, rubrics and resources.

School Year 2017 - 2018

- Purchase of text resources for Leadership in Action.
- Add Leadership in Action to the Course Selection Sheets for High School.
- Professional development for Leadership in Action teachers to unpack standards, rubrics and resources.

Resources

> Speech Communications:

- Lucas, Stephen. The Art of Public Speaking. McGraw-Hill. 2015.
- > 40 copies per HS at \$98 per copy
- **\$19,742**

> Argumentation:

- Graf, Gerald. They Say, I Say. W.W. Norton Publishing. 2014.
- 40 copies per HS at \$35 per copy
- > \$6,950

➤ Leadership in Action:

- Classroom Library: The 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth; 25 Ways to Win People, and Leadership for Students
- 1 set per high school \$1,692.95
- **>** \$8,464.75
- > Total:\$38,156.75

Next Steps

- Provide curriculum professional development and teacher collaboration time along with rubric and assessment implementation.
- Provide technology as a communication tool support

A child's future employment needs to be considered when providing learning opportunities!



