



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Board Curriculum Committee

AGENDA

Date: April 16, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

Location:

- In-person: FNSBSD Administrative Center, 520 Fifth Avenue, Room 426, Fairbanks, AK 99701
- Join through Zoom here: <https://k12northstar-org.zoom.us/j/83522236479>
- Participate by phone:
1-888-788-0099 (Toll Free) Webinar ID: 835 2223 6479 *6 mutes and unmutes
1-877-853-5247 (Toll Free) *9 raises a caller's hand

A. PRELIMINARIES

1. Call to order

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement: As a standing committee of the School Board, we would like to this moment to acknowledge we are residing on the traditional land of the Dena (pronounced duhNay) people.

3. Mission Statement: As a community, we create supportive learning environments where all students thrive.

4. Roll Call

Allyson Nicholson
Heather Stewart
Edward Paxson
Kenli Donahou
Shiela May Cole
Beth Zirbes

Elisabeth Nadin
Heather McFarlin
Hannah Harp
Lynsy Carrell
Joshua Peter

Nonvoting Members

Tim Doran
Chane Beam

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Recommend approval of the meeting agenda for April 16, 2026.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Recommend approval of the meeting minutes for April 2, 2026 meeting.

D. CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) UPDATES

- Recommend the School Board adopt the proposed Business Management & Administration curriculum
- Recommendation Memo

E. CURRICULUM UPDATES

- Recommend the School Board adopt the proposed K-12 Social Studies curriculum
- Recommendation memo
- Recommend the School Board adopt the proposed Social Studies materials
- Recommendation memo

F. PILOT COURSES

G. ELA CURRICULUM PREVIEW

E. GENERAL COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

F. ADJOURNMENT



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Board Curriculum Committee

Minutes of April 2, 2026

Mr. Doran called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. in the FNSBSD Administrative Center boardroom, 520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, AK. Committee members attended in person and via Zoom.

Members Present:

Joshua Peter
Allyson Nicholson
Shiela May Cole
Ed Paxson
Lynsy Carrell

Nonvoting Members:

Chane Beam
Tim Doran

Members Absent:

Heather McFarlin
Kenli Donahou
Heather Stewart
Hannah Harp

Elisabeth Nadin
Beth Zirbes

Guests:

Tara DeVaughn
Andrea Wade

Committee Support:

Pamela Metzger

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

-Roll call completed, quorum established. Land Acknowledgement and Mission Statement read by Mr. Doran.

Ed motioned to approve the agenda, Shiela seconded. Without objection the motion was approved.

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Lynsy motioned to approve March 5 meeting minutes, Ed seconded. Without objection the motion was approved.

D. CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) UPDATES

Andrea Wade discussed the CTE timeline and shared the status of each of the three pathways being revised this year. Business Management & Administration was out for public comment the second half of March. There were three comments, all from different perspectives. There was a comment about how this pathway affects geo in construction as we currently use entrepreneur 2A/2B for geo in construction. At this time there are some differences in how the class is written, so we will be re-writing that portion for geo in construction and will live in our architecture and construction pathway.

Another suggestion made was putting marketing into the intro business class. I feel this will be easy to do as most of the class touches on marketing, so we will just need to expand on some of those learning points.

E. MATERIALS UPDATES

Tara DeVaughn reviewed where the curriculum revision is currently at in the timeline. Emphasizing that there is one more meeting where the committee will vote. Social Studies materials were available for public comment the week after spring break. There were four comments, all from teachers. Middle school mainly voted for Savvas. High school had more of a split between McGraw Hill and Savvas. After public comment closed, I emailed each department and asked them to send their final choice. Middle school went with Savvas. High School mainly with McGraw Hill and a few from Savvas.

Ed: I am happy with these choices. All high school will be McGraw Hill and middle school will be Savvas. This makes it easier as teachers move around, making taking that skill from one prep to another. After speaking with a college, instead of books making rounds to each location, have some admin leave to come downtown to review books. Kelly Scanlon said around 2006, they had three days to go downtown on admin leave and review. Because after school, twenty to thirty minutes which is barely enough to crack into it.

Chane: This is something we can look into, we would have to get principals on board with subs.

Ed: If not a massive gathering of every school teacher in the subject, but maybe a representative from each school. I know there aren't a ton of people jumping at the opportunity to come hang with my teenagers.

Shiela: With use of materials for six years, I support Ed's idea.

Tim: I do remember those days of teachers coming down to review, not sure how practical it is. Maybe there could be subs roaming around schools to relieve teachers to review during the school day. To review, Savvas is being recommended for middle school and McGraw Hill for high school due to more depth.

Tara: Correct, there are some consumables, like an inquiry journal and support pieces, it isn't just the layout that works for middle school. Having one publisher for grades 6 - 8 and one for 9 - 12 is great continuity.

F. MEMORANDUMS

The committee looked at one memorandum at a time, starting with CTE, then social studies curriculum, and lastly social studies materials. Discussion ensued on specific wording for each memorandum.

Ed: I have a question about a book in our library for Alaska studies. It is easy to read and each section and very useful for Alaska studies. Could that be adopted?

Tara: That would be supplemental, and put into the appendix.

Ed: There are Alaska textbooks out there, just for college level.

Tara: Yes, we just don't have a high school level textbook written.

Tim: Yes, I do know what book you are speaking of.

Discussion ensued on different Alaska books

Josh: When I took Alaska studies many years ago, Alaska history started when Russians came, does it now cover different Alaska Native groups?

Discussion ensued on how this is met in the curriculum.

G. GENERAL COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Tim called each committee member present for any general comments or questions, there were none.

Tim: April 16th is our last meeting this school year - could be a quick one but we vote and need a quorum to do so. Then Teaching & Learning will present to the school board on April 21st, then the following meeting to adopt.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Lynsy motioned to adjourn, Ed seconded.

Tim adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: April 16, 2026
TO: FNSB Board of Education
FROM: Board Curriculum Committee
SUBJECT: Career and Technical Education - Business Management & Administration Curriculum

The Board Curriculum Committee supports the *CTE Business Management & Administration Curriculum* and **recommends it for adoption by the School Board.**

Our support of the proposed curriculum began at the beginning of the 2025-26 school year. The proposed curriculum has followed the established curriculum revision process outlined in [AR 910](#) (Curriculum Development). The curriculum writers worked to identify where the curriculum aligned to the following standards: Alaska's English/Language Arts, Mathematical, Science, Cultural, and Employability Standards and Technical Standards. The proposed curriculum follows the standards from the Future Business Leaders of America and their related Career Technical Student Organizations (CTSO).

Draft one of the *Business Management & Administration Curriculum* was made available for public review and comment in March 2026, feedback was solicited from a variety of stakeholders, including principals, teachers, parents, students, members of the community, representatives from local industry, and faculty from University of Alaska Fairbanks. Writers, CTE, and Teaching and Learning staff reviewed and considered all input. The Board Curriculum Committee reviewed the draft and discussed it as a group. The proposed curriculum reflects a lengthy process of thought, discussion, and research. The proposed curriculum reflects the priorities of the District's Strategic Plan.

At the April 16, 2026 meeting, the Board Curriculum Committee voted to recommend the proposed *Business Management & Administration* curriculum to the School Board for adoption. The committee supports the vision of providing opportunity and access in CTE coursework and postsecondary career planning for all students.

The Board Curriculum Committee thanks the curriculum writers for all their work. They have developed a document that is strong, clear, reflects the input of our district and community, and is aligned to state and industry standards.

Respectfully submitted by the FNSBSD Board Curriculum Committee.

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: April 16, 2026
TO: FNSB Board of Education
FROM: Board Curriculum Committee
SUBJECT: Social Studies Curriculum for Grades K-12

The Board Curriculum Committee supports the *Social Studies Curriculum* for grades K-12 and **recommends it for adoption by the School Board.**

Our support of the proposed *Social Studies Curriculum* began at the beginning of the 2025-26 school year and continued through each of the three drafts. The proposed curriculum has followed the established curriculum revision process outlined in [AR 910](#) (Curriculum Development). The curriculum writers worked to create a curriculum aligned to the Alaska Social Studies Standards.

Draft one of the *Social Studies Curriculum* was made available for public review and comment in August and September 2025. Feedback was solicited from a variety of stakeholders including principals, teachers, parents, students, members of the community, and faculty from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Curriculum writers reviewed and considered all input before revising each iterative draft. The Board Curriculum Committee also reviewed and discussed each draft as a group. This process was repeated when draft two was released in December 2025 and when draft three was released at the end of February through the first week of March 2026. The proposed curriculum reflects a lengthy process of thought, discussion, and research. The proposed curriculum reflects the priorities of the District's Strategic Plan.

At the April 16, 2026 meeting the Board Curriculum Committee voted to recommend the proposed *Social Studies Curriculum* to the School Board for adoption.

The Board Curriculum Committee thanks the curriculum writers for all their work. They have developed a document that is strong, clear, reflects the input of our district and community, and is aligned to state standards.

Respectfully submitted by the FNSBSD Board Curriculum Committee.

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: April 16, 2026
TO: FNSB Board of Education
FROM: Board Curriculum Committee
SUBJECT: Materials Recommendations

The Board Curriculum Committee supports the adoption of the materials recommended by the Teaching & Learning Department for Social Studies as listed:

- Middle School - Savvas
- High School - McGraw Hill
 - Alaska Studies - Alaska History and Cultural Studies Curriculum Project

A detailed course and materials list can be found on the next page.

District staff, parents, and the community had the opportunity to review sample materials and provide feedback. This committee also reviewed and discussed these materials. At the April 16, 2026 meeting the Board Curriculum Committee voted to recommend that the School Board adopt these selected materials.

Respectfully submitted by the FNSBSD Board Curriculum Committee.

Curriculum Content Area	Course Name	Proposed Textbook Title	Publisher
Middle School	6th Grade: Ancient Civilizations	World History Early Ages	Savvas
	7th Grade: World Geography & Cultures	World Geography	
	8th Grade: U.S. History & Civics	American History Beginnings to 1877	
Alaska Studies	Alaska Studies	https://sites.google.com/g.kpbsd.org/alaskastudies/home?authuser=0	Alaska History and Cultural Studies Curriculum Project
World Studies	World History 1 & 2	World History, Modern Times	McGraw Hill
	World Geography	Geography: The Human and Physical World	
	AP World History	Bentley, Traditions & Encounters, AP Edition	
United States Studies	U.S. History 1 & 2	United States History, Modern Times	McGraw Hill
	U.S. History: Wars and Conflicts 1 & 2	United States History, Modern Times	
	U.S. Civil Rights Experience	Civil Rights; A Global Perspective	
Government Studies	United States Government & Civic	United States Government & Civics	McGraw Hill
	U.S. Legal Systems	Street Law: A Course in Practical Law	
Contemporary Economic Studies	Economics and Financial Literacy	• Economics • Focus on Personal Financial Literacy	McGraw Hill
Electives	Psychology	Understanding Psychology, High School Edition	McGraw Hill