



A Community of Learners

Informational Memo: 2018 Summer Curriculum Work

TO: School Board
Trisha Kocanda, *Superintendent*

FROM: Barry Rodgers, *Director of Innovation, Teaching and Learning*

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This summer, a variety of teams of teachers met to do committee work to further the professional capacity of our staff and to further develop our curricular programming. Focused work occurred under the guidance of the Office of Innovation, Teaching, and Learning, the Office of Technology, and the Department of Student Services.

The following table outlines the teams that collaborated together, their area of focus, and the deliverables as a result of their summer work:

Innovation, Teaching and Learning Office Sponsored Work			
Topic	Focus	Proposed Description of Work	Final Product of Work
Social Studies	Full Committee Work	The committee will continue the review of the new standards for both inquiry and content. Each grade level band will continue drafting thematic units and activities to address the standards. In addition, the committee as a whole will review the grade level work as a means of establishing vertical alignment across the grades.	Creation of initial lessons that will be piloted during the 2018 - 2019 school year.
Social Studies	Grade Level Bands K - 8	Grade level bands will work individually to continue the work initiated during the full committee meeting on June 12.	Creation of initial lessons that will be piloted during the 2018 - 2019 school year.

Language Arts	Grammar	Members of the Language Arts committee will be completing the final component of the Grammar-at-a-Glance document which is to integrate resource/activity links into the document for teacher use.	Completed Grammar-at-a-Glance (Standards Document)
Language Arts	Grammar	Several Language Arts committee members will create grammar anchor charts and posters for Grades K - 8. These charts will provide visual support to both students and teachers.	Grammar charts for all Language Arts classrooms
Language Arts	Cornerstone Assessment	During the 2017-2018 school year, the Language Arts committee conducted a review of the Cornerstone Assessment. With feedback from teachers, and a vertical alignment review among the grade levels, each checklist underwent revisions. The summer work will focus on the final steps of the review.	Updated Checklists for each grade level
Language Arts	Word Study	To support teachers with the word study rollout of the program Words Their Way, resource binders that contain the needed teacher materials will be created.	Resource Binders for all Grade 3 - 5 Language Arts Teachers
Language Arts	Word Study	Fifth grade teachers piloted the word study program Words Their Way during the 2017-18 school year. They identified several components of the program that they would like to strengthen in order to meet the developmental needs of fifth grade students. The intent of the summer work is to explore different resources and make programmatic changes for the 2018-19 school year.	Revisions to the 5th grade Words Their Way Implementation
Math	Home/School Connection	Math facilitators will create videos to accompany elementary level math games. The videos will contain clips of people playing the games along with directions and suggestions.	Video Instructions for elementary math games for parent and student use
Math	Home/School Connection	Math facilitators and classroom teachers will be creating common parent communications for each grade level K - 4. These communications will contain information about the district's approach to math instruction, along with suggestions for incorporating math at home.	Multiple parent letters for each grade level K - 2
Math	Disposition	The fifth grade math teachers will be engaging in a book study using the text	Development of new practices and activities to integrate into

		<i>Mindset Mathematics: Visualizing and Investigating Big Ideas, Grade 5</i> by Jo Boaler.	the fifth grade curriculum
Math	Assessment	The sixth grade math teachers will continue their professional development work with the Illustrative Math materials.	Establishment of Assessment Task
Math	Supplemental Materials	Math facilitators will be developing and refining supplemental materials for Grades 1 - 4.	Student strategy materials for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division Math Box Alignment Forum Problem-solving Tasks Number Talk Books
Math	Interventions	The elementary math interventionists will meet to discuss the successes and challenges of the initial year of math interventions in the elementary buildings. They will use these reflections to create a plan for the 2018-19 school year.	Intervention Plan for the 2018-2019 School Year
Math/Science	Unit Integration	Knowing that many of the academic practices in math and science are similar, the elementary math and science facilitators will explore integration points for various units of study in the first grade curriculum.	Learning Plan that outlines related math and science standards and the integration points in various Units of Study
Science Grades K - 4	Curriculum Development	Elementary science facilitators will provide updates to various science units in Grades K - 4.	Updated KUDs and Learning Plans
Science Grade 5 - 8	Curriculum Development	In grade level bands, teachers will continue the curriculum development that aligns with the new NGSS standards. The work will include the development of hands-on investigations, assessments/rubrics and the organization of online materials.	Updated KUDs and Learning Plans
Kindergarten	Parent Communications	Kindergarten teachers will be creating district newsletters that share the essential components of a play-based kindergarten and how the components contribute to the physical, emotional, social and cognitive development of students.	Fall, Winter and Spring District EDK Newsletters
Kindergarten	Play Continuum	As a means of helping parents understand the benefits of play in young children, the kindergarten teachers are seeking to create a Developmental Play Continuum. The	Collection of Research and Literature

		intent of the summer work is to gather the research and literature the team will need in the development of the continuum.	
Kindergarten	Math	Kindergarten teachers and math facilitators will design new versions of the kindergarten math games that will incorporate the Unit of Study themes. By doing so, it provides the students with real-life connections to the mathematical concepts.	New classroom sets of math games
6th Grade	Integrated Units	A sixth grade team will be researching and writing several integrated social studies and science units. While the overarching themes stem from the social studies and science standards, integration of reading, writing and math standards will be also be included.	Multiple units of studies that include project based assessments
8th Grade Team	Integrated Units	Team Discover teachers will be working together to create an interdisciplinary unit for implementation in the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year.	Student facing document to structure their inquiry process, assessment tools, and a solid curricular and daily plans
SEL Committee	Staff Support	The committee will hold a meeting to create a vision for their work in the 2018-19 school year with an emphasis on the resources that teachers need in order to support the SEL needs of students.	Vision/Plan for the 2018-2019 school year
Skokie Facilitators	Staff PD	The Skokie math/science/language arts facilitators will create a presentation that illustrates the integration of pedagogical strategies and language shared among the disciplines.	Presentation to Skokie staff during the August Institute Days
World Language	Curriculum Development	Focusing on their particular grade and language, the World Language teachers will develop new curricular components that will be implemented in the 2018 - 2019 school year.	Literacy materials (Elementary Spanish) Examination of the new ACTFL Intercultural Communication standards and the new APPEL test (5th & 6th Grade Spanish and French) Online textbook (7th & 8th Grade French) ebook Novel pilot project (7th & 8th grade Spanish)

Technology Office Sponsored Work

Topic	Focus	Description of Work	Product of Work
K-4 STEAM Facilitators (RC Directors and Tech Facilitators)	Implementation and responsibilities for new staffing structure.	The STEAM team will reflect on existing lessons and determine what units will be implemented for the new school year. There will also be a transfer of knowledge to the new hires and those new to their position to successfully implement the new staffing structure.	Additional common experiences for each grade level. Microcredentials Platform Common areas of focus for all three elementary schools.
7-8 RC and Tech	Partnership for technology integration and staff support.	Planning the partnership for technology support and integration at Washburne.	Chart of individual responsibilities and options for staff to get support and access resources.
Tech/Digital Literacy	Partnership for technology integration and staff support.	Planning the partnership for technology support and integration at Skokie School and reflection/revision of existing digital literacy program.	Chart of individual responsibilities and options for staff to get support and access resources.

Department of Student Services Sponsored Work

Topic	Focus	Description of Work	Product of Work
Speech Pathologist	Organization of Resources	A shared drive has been created for speech pathologists to share resources. Summer work will include adding current forms to the drive and creating new materials and links for the drive.	Google Drive - Shared Folder
New IEP System	Develop a resource guide	As the new IEP system is implemented, it will be helpful to have a resource guide that staff can refer to as they navigate the new system.	Procedure guide for all Student Services Staff
Social Thinking	Intervention Roll out	For first grade: Develop and roll out a social thinking class-wide intervention that will include opportunities for weekly or every other week group lessons.	Document that outlines classroom interventions
Collaborative Problem Solving	Referral processes	Design a framework that will incorporate more collaboration with student referrals; develop a needs assessment that can help to frame discussions; update referral forms	Documents that will frame the referral process for staff

Middle School Writing Goals	Measurement/ progress monitoring	Develop writing prompts and rubrics for more efficient progress monitoring of middle school students' IEP goals in writing.	Prompts and rubrics
Student Supports	Integrated Service Delivery	Preparation for students who have high language needs who are transitioning from SK to CW	Guidelines for Transition
Special Education Protocols	Protocol Review	Develop and/or review existing protocols for sharing assessment information and for guiding determinations about student placement.	Protocol Development

Summer Professional Development Opportunities

Topic	Focus	Description of Work	Product of Work
Language Arts	Words Their Way Overview Workshop	The literacy facilitators will offer a one-day workshop to classroom and special education teachers in grades 3 - 5 that will provide an overview of the Words Their Way program. The objective of the workshop is to familiarize teachers with both the foundational principles and daily implementation of the program in preparation of the initial rollout in the 2018 - 2019 school year.	Further Development of Language Arts Instruction
New K-5 Teachers and Math Facilitators	Implementing Investigations 3 Workshop	Several new teachers will participate in an online course that will introduce them to the philosophy and structure of the Investigations 3 materials.	Further Development of Math Instruction
Math	Problem Solving Workshops	The Problem Solving Workshop will focus on fostering problem solving, communication, and valuing student thinking in math. A three hour workshop for each grade level band (K-2, 3-5 and 6-8) will be offered to both classroom and special education teachers. The workshops will be facilitated by Max Ray-Riek, formerly of the Math Forum, current IM author, and frequent presenter at regional and national conferences.	Further Development of Math Instruction
Math	Facilitator Professional Development	Following the problem-solving workshops with staff, the math facilitators will spend a day debriefing with Max Ray-Riek. The goal of the meeting is to develop ongoing professional development activities to be introduced throughout the year with their grade level teams.	Professional Development Activities

