

Curriculum Review Committee Agenda and Minutes

February 19, 2013

Members in Attendance:

Agenda:

1. Minutes from January, posted on website
2. Review Staff Development Days
3. Inclusive Education Plan
4. Begin Math Curriculum Review
5. Next meeting March 26, 2013

Minutes for February 19th

Members in Attendance: Caren Putrah, Deb Scheil

1. January minutes can be reviewed on the website. We did not have a “parent friendly” curriculum document to review as the minutes indicated.
2. Deb shared the format of the two staff development days February 15th and February 18th.
 - a. Three industry tours were arranged: The Faribault Woolen Mill, Faribault Foods, and Wenger Corporation. Each tour was unique, but all helped the staff to be adult learners about processes and products that are made in our community. The Woolen Mill tour was rich in history, the Faribault Foods plant showed us the increase in mechanization over time, and at Wenger Corporation in Owatonna the mechanics of sound were studied. Each of these facilities was rich in engineering, science, mathematics and social studies connections. Students at several grade levels will be touring several of these facilities as a result of our work as adult learners.
 - b. Friday had two components that were dedicated to beginning the math review process. Teachers began by looking at work from last spring and talking “up” and talking “down” to their colleagues about gaps in the curriculum, ways to work across the grade levels, and where students needed extra support or extensions. The faculty also began creating an end of year assessment for their grade level and looked at a template for a math portfolio. (Caren suggested a summer math letter or set of emails like the reading emails from last summer to help families keep their children on track.)
 - c. Monday morning staff members took on the teaching role and presented to their colleagues. Each person was able to sign up for two of the possible six sessions that were offered. Sarah Olson shared beginning reading information on phonograms; Ryan Johnson shared strategies and insights about 6+1 Traits of Writing; Elaine Loranze showed ways to get students outside and observing; Kelly Schrandt showed technology tools and materials from the Science House that can aid instruction; Sarah Wallis made the connection between math and art more visible; Deb Scheil had teachers analyze their morning meetings, particularly the message for its academic focus.

3. Another copy of the CRSS Inclusive Education plan was given to committee members. This copy included the additions and deletions that staff recommended when they spent time doing the annual review of the plan the week before. Three ideas came to the front: the need for images of all variety of people and children throughout the school; a need to review the all school meeting practices; and to determine if some of the materials listed in the plan are still available in the school.
 - a. Deb asked that the Inclusive Education Plan be removed from the 2012-2013 curriculum review cycle at the board level.
 - b. The major reworking of the plan would occur in the 2014-2015 school year – one year earlier than noted in the last plan. This would allow us to get familiar with the social studies standards which were just adopted last spring and would give us one more year of annual review to determine what we have for resources. From there it would be on the curriculum review every six years as mandated by law.
4. Deb shared the math work that was hanging in the meeting area showing the concerns/thank yous of staff from one grade level to the next. She also showed the first portfolio template and how the end of year assessment might look.
5. The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 26, 2013 from 1:00 to 2:30. The main focus of the meeting will be to review the progress on the components of the math curriculum that the staff is undertaking.

Respectfully,
Deb Scheil