

Curriculum Review Committee
February 23, 2016

Agenda:

1. Review December minutes
2. Commissioner Casselius' math analysis
3. Art, Music, P.E. progress on mapping
4. ELA and Social Studies maps for written review
5. Marie Fargo – RBNC Seasonal Environmental Educator

Minutes:

Members present: Caren Putrah, Sherry Benson, potential member Shelly Cole, Deb Scheil

There were no questions about the December minutes.

Deb shared the information from the Commissioner's task force about MCA math scores across the state being flat. Our staff has reviewed the information as a group of 3rd-8th grade teachers and again in grade level teams during a common prep time. Observations about potential tools to use, order of units taught, and across grade level similarities and differences were some of the types of information the groups discussed after looking at the state data, the grade level data, the standards and benchmarks, and the test specifications.

The Art, Music and P.E. specialists have completed work on the philosophy statements, the year overviews and have come to the decision to "band" the maps into the grade levels that their standards are banded in except that 6th, 7th, and 8th will each have their own grade level map. A minimum of 10 school provided hours have been spent mapping with a sub being provided for 2 of those hours, 4 hours during the February staff development days, and other staff meeting time. This is on schedule for School Board review this summer.

Social Studies maps for grades K-8 were printed and distributed to the committee members. On the back of the agenda were notes about the organization and content of the sections of each map. Each committee member was asked to review a couple of maps as they are able and provide feedback – particularly in the area of ELA standards being embedded, could they step in and use the maps to teach a lesson, and are field trips and outdoor experiences included. The March 9th Early Dismissal is the target date for comments to be returned so that staff might use those during the afternoon mapping. The goal continues to be to present this to the School Board this summer.

ELA mapping was quickly discussed. Word Study maps have been created for all grade levels. A template for a Literature Map and for an Informational Text Map has been created and most grades have started working on that. This is also still a summer goal for School Board presentation.

Marie Fargo introduced herself, the schedule for RBNC Seasonal Environmental Educators, and the programs that she has been working with during her quarter at CRSS.

Next meeting date will be Tuesday, March 22nd, 2016 from 1:15 to 2:45 at Old Main.