



SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER

**INSTRUCTIONAL COUNCIL**

**MAY 20, 2010**  
**8:30 AM – 2:00 PM**  
**ROOM 240**

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Attendance**

**Members:** Celia Banks, Barbara Bettis, Lori Brandes, Susan Collins, Suzanne Colombe, Chris Dennison, Heather Fodor, Maryellyn Friel, Heather Hunt, Doug Johnson, Julie Kallenbach, Denise Lockwald, Kathy Magan, Jennifer McDonnell, Wendy Molof, Sahar Nammari, Michelle Rogers Besch, Lavonne Smiley, Nan Strohmaier, Rosa Syphers, Katie Thomson, Pamela Tonyan, Renee Zabel, Lynn Glaser

**Observers:**

**Guests:** Dan Hoffman and Lisa Whitmer new council members for next year  
**Presenters:** Susan Ali, Gina Crespo, Carla Cumblad, Lynne Huske, Pam Harris, Eleanor Hamilton, Lisa Vazzana, Kathryn Smith, Judith Scrima, Lana Brozik, Cynthia Gonzalez, Judy Dowling, Jeff Minlon, Amanda Roudebush, Marilyn Mattei, Lydia Sanchez

Welcome – Member Recognition, Lynn Glaser bid a fond farewell to members of Council that have completed their term as members of Instructional Council.

Introduction of New Members - Lynn Glaser welcomed new members to council, Lisa Whitmer, Dan Hoffman and announced that Katie Thomson will be continuing to serve on Council.

Approval of April 15, 2010 Minutes – Motion to approve by Katie Thomson, second by Julie Kallenbach, motion carried.

**I. Initial Presentations**

None

**II. Action Items**

- A. Proposal to Adopt M. S. Language Arts Curriculum & Supplemental Materials –** Susan Ali, Gina Crespo, Lisa Vazzana, Kathryn Smith, Judith Scrima, Lana Brozik, Cynthia Gonzalez, Judy Dowling, Jeff Minlon, Amanda Roudebush, Marilyn Mattei, and Lydia Sanchez presenting. The proposed curriculum for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades English and Reading teachers is based on the ISBE Standards, the ACT College Readiness Standards and NWEA Measures of Academic Progress Assessment Strands. Each teacher will receive a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum notebook, with reading/writing instruction together for all four quarters. There are rubrics and scoring guides, a glossary and tool kit in the notebook. There will be a resource library, one for 7<sup>th</sup> and one for 8<sup>th</sup>, at each school.

In August, 2009, the Board of Education approved the Language Arts curriculum for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades as a developing curriculum. Areas in the middle school curriculum needed to be more fully developed which included assessment, addition of model teaches, suggested learning experiences and literature pieces added to the mentor, anchor and capstone text columns. In addition, the committee made revisions to the following: reorganization of the curriculum template, curriculum content and Illinois Learning Standards, Measures of Academic Progress Assessment Strands and College Readiness Standards. Newly added pieces are: explanations of the Curriculum Guide, ESL first quarter curriculum templates and ongoing activities. Curriculum resources proposed to supplement the curriculum are the book *Mechanically Inclined* and a Literacy Resource Library. The Literacy Resource Library will be purchased with Title One Funds.

During discussion among Council members, the question arose as to those students not taking reading in middle school, where will they receive instruction? They will be covered in their English classes. A suggestion was also given that the abbreviations be explained in the curriculum notebook.

A suggestion was also made to keep the 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers aware of what will be taught in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade through vertical articulation.

Katie Thomson moved to recommend to the Superintendent to adopt the Middle School Language Arts Curriculum and purchase of Supplemental materials, seconded by Maryellen Friel. Opened for discussion.

Some members of Council felt that the assessment piece was not complete; however, the curriculum did state that common assessments are still a developing part of the curriculum. This will be supported with professional development during the next school year that will focus on all aspects of the holistic assessment process.

Katie Thomson motioned to withdraw the motion, Maryellen Friel seconded. A recommendation was made by Julie Kallenbach that the motion be amended to consider this curriculum as a pilot. It was felt that this was not the way to go with this proposal. Jennifer McDonnell stated that this curriculum was great and the problem with assessment was a small portion of the curriculum. It was also noted at Steering Committee that more assessment was needed and would be developed further as stated in the curriculum document.

Lori Brandes motioned to put the motion back on the floor, Julie Kallenbach seconded, and the vote was 17 for, 3 opposed. Motion carried.

- B. Honors Project Lead the Way IED, POE, CIM, DE, CEA, EDD – Wendy Molof motioned to forward to the Superintendent to adopt Honors Project Lead the Way for Introduction to Engineering (IED), Principles of Engineering (POE), Digital Electronics (DE), Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM), Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA), and Engineering Design and Development (EDD), seconded by Heather Hunt. Several council member expressed concerns regarding the Honors designation for courses that will have students taking the course for regular credit.

There is a different type of test that is taken by students seeking Honors credit. Call the question, 14 in favor of adopting, 2 opposed, and 1 abstaining, motion carried.

### III. Information Items

- A. Supplementary Instructional Materials H.S. ESL - Gina Crespo presenting. The current series, *The Shining Star*, was adopted in 2006 for ELL students in grades 6-12 and the content aligns more with grades seven and eight. After careful review by the middle school ESL writing committee and our ASCD ELL consultant, Dr. Virginia Rojas, the committee found that these instructional materials align to the middle school Science and Social Studies content and are instructionally appropriate for grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> rather than high school. Therefore, *SpringBoard* will be used as supplemental material at the high school for ESL Levels 3-5 and resources will be used as Anchor Mentor Texts and aligned to the developing ESL High School Curriculum in 2010 – 2011. *Shining Star* will continue to be used in grades 6-8.
- B. Response to Intervention Update - Carla Cumblad presenting. The final RtI professional development series was completed. At the end of April, separate sessions were held for elementary, middle school and high school administrators during their Administrative Development Days. The focus of the sessions was to review the year and discuss leadership activities for the upcoming year.

For the 2010-11 school years, each building will be implementing three levels of building teams that they have been exploring throughout the year:

- Building Leadership Teams to oversee the SIP plan and RtI Implementation;
- Grade/Department teams are intended to examine core instruction; and
- Intervention teams are to develop and oversee both group and individual interventions for students.

An Intervention Open House was held on April 27, 28, and 29 so that interested individuals could view materials and take away a summary of each product listed.

PBIS the “behavioral side” of the RtI model continues to be implemented in 32 of the district’s schools. A series of team meetings were held in May to review activities for the year and make plans for the upcoming year.

- C. U-46 Curriculum Cycle Procedures/Processes - Lynne Huske presenting. The last presentation to Instructional Council was in January. The plan is to review on a yearly basis. Stage 2 has been added since the previous presentation. The process is done in stages not years to adapt as personnel changes take place.
- D. ILP (Instructional Learning Programs) Update - Pam Harris and Eleanor Hamilton presenting. This program is for autistic students that need a more structured learning environment. There are 27 students currently in this program. Instruction is differentiated to the individual needs of the student. The presenters shared information about parent feedback, mainstreaming and the implementation of the Unique Learning System curriculum.

### IV. Dialogue Topic

None

## V. Other

- A. Tentative Calendar 2010-2011 – Steering Committee and Instructional Council dates were reviewed. A motion by Michelle Rogers Besch to approve the calendar as presented, seconded by Susan Collins, motion carried.
- B. 2010-2011 Steering Committee Election – Election resulted in Celia Banks, Barb Bettis, Heather Fodor, Lavonne Smiley, Maryellen Friel, Mike Demovsky, and Nan Strohmaier being elected to serve.
- C. June 9, 2010 Instructional Council Meeting – Lynn Glaser announced that there will be a meeting in June for a presentation of AP Calculus and AP Physics textbook selection.
- D. Results of District U-46 Language Arts Curriculum Survey – Barb Bettis and Lisa Whitmer shared the results of the survey. Five hundred PK-12 teachers responded to the survey. This data will serve as a baseline and will be re-run in the fall to gauge teacher feedback of the newly developed LA curriculum. Suggestions were made by other council members of possible changes in some of the phrasing of questions to perhaps receive a more accurate response.

Motion from Susan Collins at 2:40 to adjourn meeting, second by Michelle Rogers Besch, motion carried.