



## SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46

### INSTRUCTIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 16, 2010

8:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

ESC - ROOM 240

### MEETING MINUTES

Welcome

Lynn Glaser welcomed new and returning council members. Introductions were made.

Welcome Dr. Torres and Kathy Castle

Dr. Torres and Kathy Castle welcomed the committee members and thanked them for their commitment to the work of Instructional Council.

#### I. Initial Presentations

A. High School Curriculum Framework for Reading Strategies Class – Angela Fortune, Carol Romaniszak, Patricia Karner and Susan Ali presenting. It is the recommendation of the Reading Intervention Curriculum Framework Writing Committee that Reading Strategies teachers at each high school begin using the curriculum framework as a supplementary resource in the first quarter of the current school year. The goal of the Reading Strategies Curriculum Framework is to support the acceleration of the literacy development in the lowest-achieving high school students. The curriculum framework is designed to provide consistency and continuity district-wide. The teachers will implement the framework this year and continue to write curriculum with the goal of a completed curriculum and alignment to the new Common Core State Standards by the fall of the 2011-12 school year.

The key instructional components of Motivation, Word Analysis, Fluency and Comprehension are addressed. Formative assessments are embedded throughout each instructional block.

Professional development with a focus on curriculum orientation, content, motivation, engagement and strategies to meet the needs of ELL and African American students will be provided. A set of professional books will be included as part of a resource library for teachers.

#### II. Action Items

None

#### III. Information Items

A. 2009-2010 Instructional Council Adoptions - Lynn Glaser presenting. The 2009-2010 adoptions were reviewed. Due to enrollment numbers, Mandarin did not write in the World Languages and International Studies Academy at Streamwood High School.

A question arose regarding the Honors PLTW proposal that did not go to the Board of Education, it was stated that Honors designation will be reviewed systematically across the district.

A question was asked regarding the materials for AP Physics course that was approved. All textbooks were received and on line program; technology component decision was expected this week.

- B. *SpringBoard* – Supplementary Material for LHS Secondary Language Arts (Grades 9-12) – Eric Hill, Jennifer Miller, Lisa Whitmer, Cynthia Febles, Jennifer Slawski and Jon Tuin presenting. The Larkin Language Arts Department informed the Instructional Council of its desire to incorporate *SpringBoard* supplementary materials for grades 9-12. Title I funding would be used to purchase materials. Ten teachers from the Larkin Language Arts department attended a four day professional development training this past summer. The program provides common assessments, both formative and summative, and will aid grade-level teams in crafting three-week common assessments, helping to inform classroom instruction, as well as appropriate placement in intervention study halls. Online materials and training videos are available.

During discussion, a few high school council representatives indicated that some teachers in their schools are incorporating components of the program in their instruction. Dr. Tuin felt that this is more than a workbook and wanted the whole district to know about it. Larkin has not yet ordered materials and would like to begin using *SpringBoard* as a supplementary resource beginning second quarter of 2010 school year or sooner (October, 2010).

- C. Dual Language Program Overview - Patricia Makishima presenting. Ms. Makishima provided the background on Dual Language programs reviewing the federal laws that require schools to offer instruction in students' native language and English. State law provides for the same required instruction. Studies show that it can take five to seven years to acquire academic language needed to succeed in school. Channing has a dual language program in their school and instruction takes place at a ratio of 50/50; 50% in Spanish and 50% in English. Due to the success of the program, Ellis Middle School now has the program available for students that participated in the program at Channing.
- D. 9<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Secondary Language Arts Update - Susan Ali presenting. Dr. Ali indicated that this curriculum is still in the developing stage and not ready, at this time, to go to the Board. The committee has been upgrading the curriculum, adding an explanation of the pacing guide and a synopsis for each quarter. They have aligned the standard Reading/English scoring guide based on rubrics and characteristic they should look for. Reformatting has been done for clarity. The common assessment for 9<sup>th</sup> grade is still a work in progress.

A writing prompt, written by Bernie Phelan has been created and a full day at each high school on how to use holistic scoring has taken place. The pacing guide from last year has been redesigned.

The hope is to have this completed by March.

- E. Text Level Grades 3-6 - Susan Ali presenting. The goal is to have a text level on all School District U-46 students to accurately place them in appropriate text for independent reading and guided reading instruction by the 2011-12 school year. Consequently, several professional development options will be offered for teachers in grades 3-6<sup>th</sup> at different times throughout the 2010-11 school year. This year the administration of the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System 2 for assessment of students in grade 3-6 is optional. However, teachers who currently administer the text

level assessments are encouraged to continue and teachers who have received professional development are encouraged to assess Accelerated Learning and Building NCLB students. A committee will be formed.

IV. Dialogue Topic  
None

V. Other

A council member expressed concern regarding understanding all the different terminology used at council. A list of words was recited and a sub-committee was recommended to review the manual and explain some of the said terminology.

Another council member recommended a website to explore for possible “mini” grants that might be available for individual projects. The website is: [www.donorschose.org](http://www.donorschose.org)

A motion was made by Susan Collins and seconded by Lisa Olsem to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 pm. Motion carried.