



SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46

INSTRUCTIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 20, 2011

8:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

ESC, ROOM 240

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Attendance

Members: Maria Aguinga, Susan Ali, Celia Banks, Barbara Bettis, Lori Brandes, Susan Collins, , Jill Flanagan, , Todd Graba, Raheem Hasan, Judy Havemann, Perry Hayes, Nadine Hill, Tracy Jakaitis, Darlea Livengood, Denise Lockwald, Jennifer McDonnell, Chris Medrano, Cyndee Rothamer, Rosa Syphers, Katie Thomson, Esperanza Villareal-Ortiz, Lisa Whitmer, Jennifer Williamson, Mary Wojtczak

Absent: Jennifer Bond, Greg Crumpley, Heather Fodor, Dan Hoffman, Terri DeDecker

Presenters: Greg Walker, Lori Lopez, Patricia Makishima, Fran Stephens, Mary Henk and Anni Schneider

Welcome - Nan Ochs – Meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m.

Approval of September 15, 2011 Minutes

Motion by Katie Thomson, second by Denise Lockwald to approve September 15, 2011 minutes, motion carried.

I. Initial Presentations

None

II. Action Items

None

III. Information Items

A. Secondary Language Arts Update – Greg Walker and Lori Lopez presenting. Priorities – continue implementation of the *U-46 Literacy Model* (also referred to as the Practice Reading Cycle and the Literacy Lab Model). Continue implementation of quarterly writing assessments that reflect the Language Arts curriculum. Provide regular opportunities to analyze reading and writing data in order to drive instruction.

A resource binder was displayed for council members to review during the presentation. There was a binder for middle school and one for high school. Some members of council felt that the binder was very well organized and should be shared with the elementary schools. The presenters stated that the intention was to clearly articulate targets and align teacher actions.

Some members of council felt that the binder was prescriptive and indicates specific dates and deadlines for assessments to be completed, the assessment piece of the curriculum should have come to Instructional Council. Questions council would like to see answered at our next

meeting, as a follow-up, would be who participated as members compiling the binder, how many times they met and information regarding the mandated items.

B. ELL Update - Patricia Makashima presenting. Starting this year, the 80:20 Dual Language Program model will serve Spanish-speaking English Language Learner students in grades PreK through second in thirty elementary school which currently have the ELL Program, including the two Early Learners Centers. Students need to have met ISBE's eligibility criteria to receive English Language Learners' (ELL) services in Spanish according to the Illinois Administrative School Code 228 in order to be entitled to receive services in the Dual Language Program.

In addition, this school year, Native-English speakers and English-dominant students will be participating in Two-Way Dual Language programs at seven of the thirty schools that currently have the ELL Program in Spanish in grades kindergarten and first.

C. RtI Update - Fran Stephens, Mary Henk, Anni Schneider presenting. Presenters reminded members of council that all students are Tier I. There is an Implementation Guide in every building, usually the Principal's office. Tier II interventions can be used for Tier III by increasing the intensity and frequency of the intervention. Every school has at least one intervention program. Our presenters reminded council members that if assistance is needed in their schools they should contact the RtI coaches.

A member of council questioned the level at which to instruct the student, their current grade level or the level at which they tested out at according to the MAP test. The coaches indicated that instruction with interventions should be at the level student tested out at.

A council member questioned when a child should be moved from Tier II to Tier III. Coaches indicated that there are very few Tier III students. When a child is not showing growth, the RtI team should review.

IV. Dialogue Topic

A. Common Language of Instructional Committee

What should an update be? Members of council felt that a template should be created for presenters use when preparing updates. Some of the items to cover in an update would be: Where have we been; where are we now; where are we going? A brief background should be presented because of new members.

During discussion many members felt that as a member of Instructional Council they have an obligation to ask questions and report back findings to their buildings. Members were reminded that they needed to remove themselves from their building and not ask building specific questions.

Members felt that any changes to the curriculum, that was previously adopted, should come to council; however, it was stated that the assessment piece was still in the developing stage when council approved the curriculum.

B. Instructional Council Manual – Susan Collins reported that in a discussion with Kathy Castle, President of ETA, regarding updates to the Instructional Council Manual, the document is a collaboration of the District and ETA and took a long time to come to terms on the content and a

revision at this time, or in the future, is not recommended. *Amendment to these minutes as a result of review by council members at the December 8, 2011 meeting to indicate that revisions can be made to the Instructional Council Manual as long as they do not make changes that would interfere with contract language.*

While attempting to correct the election of Steering Committee members, due to the resignation of members, Ms. Castle indicated that the temporary adjustment for the 2011-2012 school year that was suggested and moved on was sufficient to correct the problem without a complete revision of the manual.

V. Other

A council member questioned as to when Elementary Social Studies would be reviewed, most of the books in the current adoption are out of print and unavailable. In checking the Curriculum Cycle, Elementary Social Studies review is expected to take place during the 2013/2014 school year.

One council member suggested that the principal check with the warehouse for books.

Another question was raised as to who teaches Health at the elementary level?