

Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Date:	Wednesday, September 16, 2026
Meeting Start/EndTime:	4:00-5:00 pm
Meeting Location:	Virtual
Members Present:	Deanna Thompson, Megan Frye, Lindsey Schutte, Jennifer Graves, Heidi Mathew, Jenn Fuchs
Other Attendees:	
Members Absent:	

What is CAC?

The Curriculum Advisory Committee is designed to involve parents or guardians and community members in decisions regarding the implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards and high academic achievement for all students. The role of the committee is to provide input and advice by making recommendations.

Is CAC required by law?

Yes, according to Minnesota Statute 120B.11, school districts must establish an advisory committee to ensure active community participation in all phases of planning and improving the instruction and curriculum affecting state and district academic standards.

The following may be addressed by CAC:

- Scope of Responsibility: ADVISE.
- To provide feedback on draft curriculum documents for parents.
- Consensus is not necessary as the Committee is advisory, not a decision-making group.
- Support and encourage involvement of families of learners in their school and educational programs.

Membership

The Curriculum Advisory Committee shall minimally consist of: 4 Guardians or Community members, the Executive Director, a School Board member, and 3 staff members.

Attendance

In order to promote cohesiveness and enable all members of the committee to be informed members, members are encouraged to attend each of the meetings. A committee member who misses three meetings will be contacted to determine if they are still interested in committee membership.

Meetings

The Curriculum Advisory Committee will meet virtually 3-4 times per year. Meetings will be limited, as much as possible, to one hour.

Discussion and Information Sharing

In order to facilitate discussion among all committee members, all members will be asked to limit their comments so as not to prohibit others from speaking. Agendas will be timed so that meetings can be efficient and end on time. If a particular agenda item requires more discussion, an agenda item may be carried over to the next meeting

How do I become a CAC member?

Members of CAC are recruited when seats are available through an announcement in the Parent Weekly.

Agenda Item:	Time	Type: (Procedural, Informational, Action)	Discussion/Action: (Minutes)	Person Responsible: (Reports to ED)
Call to Order	4:00	Procedural	Welcome & Introductions	
Review purpose of Committee	4:10	Informational	See information above.	
Review Curriculum Review Cycle	4:13	Informational	 SCPA Curriculum Review Cycle	

New Business	4:20	Informational	• Phase 2 - Math • 2022 Math Standards - Fully implemented in 2027-2028 • Shifts in Standards	
Adjournment	4:45	Procedural		

Next Meeting:		Informational	• Wednesday, November 4, 2026 • Wednesday, January 20, 2026 • Wednesday, April 7, 2026	
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Key Outcomes

The committee established its role as an advisory body that reviews math curriculum options and provides feedback before recommendations are sent to the school board 1. The primary goal is to align the school's math curriculum with the new 2022 MDE standards, which will be fully implemented next year 2.

Curriculum Review Process

- **Cycle Alignment:** The school follows a ten-year review cycle that matches the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) standards 3.
- **Current Phase:** Math is currently in "Phase 2: Plan and Develop," following an initial program review to align current materials with new standards 3.
- **Four-Stage Process:** The cycle consists of Program Review, Plan and Develop, Implement, and Refine/Evaluate 23.
- **Evaluation Method:** The school uses a specific rubric to evaluate both existing and new resources to determine the best alignment with standards 4.

MDE Math Standard Shifts

- **Structural Changes:** The standards shifted from four strands to three: **Data and Probability**, **Spatial Reasoning**, and **Patterns and Relationships** 25.
- **Key Content Shifts:**
 - Increased focus on **data processing and statistics** starting in kindergarten through 12th grade 6.
 - Integration of **financial literacy** and indigenous peoples' perspectives within benchmarks 67.
 - Emphasis on **patterns** and **area models** over strict step-by-step procedural instruction 8.
- **Real-World Application:** Changes are driven by how adults utilize math in professional and daily life 9.

Implementation Challenges & Risks

- **Resource Gaps:** The "Data and Probability" strand currently has the largest gaps in existing curriculum 7.

- **Textbook Limitations:** Most textbooks cater to larger states (e.g., Texas, California) rather than Minnesota, requiring teachers to build supplemental lessons to fill gaps 10.
- **Fiscal Constraints:**
 - The K-12 curriculum budget is capped at **\$100,000** 11.
 - **Consumable workbooks** are considered fiscally unfeasible due to high recurring costs 12.
- **Pedagogical Balance:** There is a need to balance new MDE methods (like area models) with the school's classical style and preference for pencil-and-paper learning over digital devices 812.

Next Steps

- **Teacher Collaboration:** Math teachers will meet on **September 28th** to identify curriculum gaps and review transitions between 4th/5th and 8th/9th grades 5.
- **Committee Review:** Deanna will share the results of the teachers' professional development work with the committee prior to the next meeting 13.
- **Next Meeting:** Scheduled for **Wednesday, November 4th** 14.