

Woodbridge Board of Education Curriculum Committee
Superintendent's Conference Room
June 6, 2024

<https://woodbridgeps.webex.com/woodbridgeps/j.php?MTID=mced7f1342d4d17224e1516b475f3aee3>

Meeting Number: (access code): 2496 302 8914

Meeting Password: Rb79s2injAd

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Strambler, Chair called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Michael Strambler, Chair (remote), Lynn Piascyk (in person), Sarah Beth Del Prete (remote), Dr. Lauren Francese (remote), Board Members; Vonda Tencza, Superintendent; Cheryl Tafel, Assistant Principal; Monique MacDonald, WEA Liaison and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

Public Comment - None

ELA Update – Ms. Tafel and Ms. MacDonald presented an overview of the process utilized to select and pilot the HMH resource as part of the mandated CSDE requirement since the denial of our Reading Waiver. The Literacy Review Committee was comprised of two (2) teachers from each grade level (Grades K-3), two (2) MAG teachers, two (2) SpEd teachers, three (3) Literacy specialists and administration. The committee utilized a shared rubric to review and select resources as well as school visits. The Committee reviewed *HMH into Reading*, *ARC (American Reading Company, Wit and Wisdom*, *Bookworms and Amplify CKLA (Core Knowledge Language Arts Program)*. The sample rubric included whole group instruction meeting varied student needs / differentiation, assessments, opportunities for independent reading, phonics resources, and alignment with standards and opportunities for process writing.

The frontrunner resource identified to pilot in the spring was HMH. The committee determined the strength of the resource, alignment to BRS curriculum and student needs and alignment to current practices and beliefs. Based on the recent pilot, while there will be an initial learning curve, there is also general agreement that it will be a beneficial resource support in the long-term. Over the summer required resources will be purchased, a rollout plan developed and summer curriculum work will identify by grade level which module components will be implemented in year 1 / and incorporated into the current ELA curriculum and identification of a calendar for staff training with full integration of all modules slated for the 2025/26 school year. It is anticipated a five-year program subscription, inclusive of program development, will be funded through utilization of two grants (\$200,000) specifically awarded by the CSDE for this purpose.

STEAM Update – The position has been posted with interviews slated to occur the week of June 10. This position will not be a “specialist” although they will have some teaching responsibilities and will collaborate with different grade levels, integrate technology / software, enrichment clusters, assist in support of TAG students and possibly PreAlgebra, budgeting and professional learning. It was noted that coding / robotics is already embedded and part of our technology program and will not be a primary focus of this position.

Other Topic Updates – Summer Curriculum Writing will encompass Math as well as Reading with nearly a 1/3 of our staff across all grade levels and specialists participating. A long-range curriculum planning calendar encompassing achievement growth data, curriculum implementation, content, mapping / pacing guides, scope / sequence alignment etc. is under development. Also, Ms. MacDonald will return during various parts of the 2024/25 school year to assist in the implementation of the reading curriculum initiative. It was noted that there are free professional learning / resources and funding available on Social Studies and the new standards.

Meeting Adjourned 5:21 PM