

Zionsville Community Schools

Board of School Trustees Meeting “Item for Consideration”

New Business 6d • Date: November 11, 2024

Middle School Science Instructional Materials

Category:

<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources, Personnel/Staffing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance, Budgeting, Accounting	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Board Policy
<input type="checkbox"/> Facilities, Transportation, Nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Relations	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Type of Board of Trustees Consideration Sought:

Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report	<input type="checkbox"/>

Facts of this Matter:

Public Law 73-2011 altered state and local textbook adoption procedures. Under this law, Indiana no longer follows a strict six-year cycle for materials adoption. Other than the requirement to adopt an approved literacy program in grades K-5, adoption of new materials is optional, and districts have discretion to continue to use current materials beyond the six-year cycle without needing a waiver from the state. Local school districts determine their own materials' review process, purchasing cycles, and criteria for selection of new materials (both print and digital). The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) created a recommended materials adoption list for science earlier this year.

One of the content areas ZCS evaluated this year was middle school (grades 5-8).

Overview of Recommendation:

Teachers, instructional coaches, and administrators reviewed our current materials, Indiana Academic Standards and updated course outlines. Then, they evaluated IDOE's recommended science materials list. Parents were offered the opportunity to review and evaluate the science materials, too. After careful consideration, we are recommending Savvas *Elevate Science* for grades five through eight as the core science instructional material.

Objective POSITIVES related to this item or approach:

Classroom teachers, instructional coaches, parents, and administrators were a part of this process.

Objective NEGATIVES related to this item or approach:

None known or anticipated at this time.

Opinion/Recommendation:

Kris Devereaux, Assistant Superintendent, is asking the ZCS Board of Trustees

1. To adopt the materials reviewed and selected by teachers and administrators for use with the instruction of the above listed courses,
2. To authorize the Superintendent and/or her designee to sign all contracts and/or agreements to authorize the purchase of the listed adoption materials.

Financial Implications, if any:

Due to new legislation, Zionsville Community Schools will incur all costs associated with the recommended instructional materials with potential reimbursement from the state. The recommended materials, along with the associated six-year license for supporting subscriptions, will cost the district approximately \$365,000. Funds to support this recommendation, if approved, will come from the Education Fund.

Suggested Wording for a Motion, if any:

I move to approve the adoption of instructional materials as presented and to authorize the Superintendent and/or her designee to sign all contracts and/or agreements to authorize the purchase of the listed adoption materials.