



Board Action Required

No Action Required

February 22, 2011

2-5 English/Spanish Language Arts Textbook Adoption

In November of 2010, a committee of elementary teachers, literacy coaches, and a representative for the Spanish adoption from the dual immersion programs gathered together to discuss the material needs of our current language arts program in CISD. The new expectations with STAAR were discussed and the need for materials that would match the CISD Strategic Plan to prepare students as 21st century communicators in writing, listening and speaking.

Elementary Committee Actions:

- Each of the elementary campuses was represented. Committee members were contacted and the adoption committee was formed. The committee was divided into three groups; Language Arts, Spelling and Handwriting. (November)
- The Language Arts committee members met to look at our current language arts practices in CISD. Committee members went back to their campuses to get feedback on what practices teacher were currently using to teach the TEKS in Language Arts. They gathered information from their campus as to what they felt was working well and what our needs for the coming year might be in language arts. (December)
- Teachers at each grade level, 2-5, were asked to teach a lesson out of the book and report back to the committee in January. In addition, the language arts rubric was filled out on all of the materials.
- Committee members looked at the materials from Write Source, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, the only adoption company considered, with three options for implementation; print only, a combination of print and technology or a technology only platform.
- In early January, committee members brought back feedback to the committee from campuses along with completed rubrics. The committee used the information to prepare questions for the visiting publisher the following week. (January 12th)
- Committee members met with the publishers and took new information from the publisher concerning the three options to their campuses. Teachers looked at the online student learning community as well as the print only option. (January 17th)
- On January 26th, the committee reconvened and made a list of pros and cons for each option. After final review, reached consensus for the 2-5 LA textbook selection.

- The LA committee came to consensus on the combination option which would provide licenses for an entire classroom with the online learning community as well as the print option as a resource for a quarter* of the population of students.(January 31st);
*The publisher has now offered print for 100% of our students (February 22nd).

This memo serves as a recommendation from the Elementary English/Spanish Language Arts Textbook Adoption Committee to order **Great Source, a division of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company**, as our new elementary language arts adoption for grades 2-5.

Furthermore, we recommend adopting all titles.

Submitted by

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on behalf of the ELA/Spanish committee, facilitator: Brenda Craven