



BOARD MEETING MEMORANDUM

Board Meeting Date: February 17, 2026

From: Anita Hernandez, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Re: Science Curriculum Material Adoption for Grades 6-8

Attachment(s): HMH Quote

Agenda Location: Consideration to Approve: Action Items

Rationale:

[Board Policy 6:40: Adoption](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend a comprehensive curriculum that is aligned with:

1. The District's educational philosophy and goals,
2. Student needs as identified by research, demographics, and student achievement and other data,
3. The knowledge, skills, and abilities required for students to become life-long learners,
4. The minimum requirements of State and federal law and regulations for curriculum and graduation requirements,
5. The curriculum of non-District schools that feed into or from a District school, provided that the necessary cooperation and information is available,
6. The Illinois State Learning Standards and any district learning standards, and
7. Any required State or federal student testing.

The School Board will adopt, upon recommendation of the Superintendent or designee, a curriculum that meets the above criteria.

[Board Policy 6:40: Experimental Educational Programs and Pilot Projects](#)

The Superintendent or designee may recommend experimental educational programs and/or pilot projects for Board consideration. Proposals must include goals, material needs, anticipated expenses, and an evaluation process. The Superintendent or designee shall submit to the Board periodic progress reports for programs that exceed one year in duration and a final evaluation with recommendations upon the program's completion.

[Board Policy 6:60: Curriculum Content](#)



ANTIOCH COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 34

INSPIRE TO DREAM - EMPOWER TO ACHIEVE

The curriculum shall contain instruction on subjects required by State statute or regulation as follows:

1. In kindergarten through grade 8, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) reading, (c) other communication skills, (d) science, (e) mathematics, (f) social studies, (g) art, (h) music, and (i) drug and substance abuse prevention.

Analysis:

The Curriculum and Instruction Department followed established protocol in the selection and recommendation of a new Science curricular tool for grades 6-8, starting in the 2026-2027 school year, including research, review and alignment of the Science Standards, piloting of two Science programs.

Recommendation/Motion:

The administration recommends that the Board approve the adoption of the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Science five-year print and digital license for grades 6 through 8, at a total cost not to exceed \$182,970.74.