



Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16  
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## **BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

**ITEM NO:** 3.16

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM:** Approval of Addition and Removal of Core  
and Supplemental Textbooks and Resources

**SUBMITTED BY:** Sheryl Castro, Executive Director of Curriculum and  
Assessment

**PRESENTED BY:** Sheryl Castro, Executive Director of Curriculum and  
Assessment

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Presented for the governing board's approval is the list of core and supplemental textbooks and resources that have been on display for public review and comments for sixty (60) days. Pursuant to ARS 15-721 and 15-722, the governing board must approve core and supplemental instructional materials/resources for educational courses.

While the list presented includes several supplemental resources that will support learning in English language arts, social studies, science, and CTE classes, the majority of the resources presented are supplemental web-based materials for elementary, middle, and high school World Languages classrooms.

Several of the resources presented are AI-driven, including:

- *FluentU* (Mandarin Chinese and Spanish; grades 6-12) provides a curated library of authentic videos and articles in Mandarin Chinese and Spanish, which are then enhanced with interactive subtitles and learning tools, making learning more engaging. This resource assesses a learner's proficiency and adapts materials to their level, providing a personalized learning experience. The platform analyzes

a learner's strengths and challenges and provides a tailored pathway that focuses on areas where the student needs support.

- *iChinese Reader* (Mandarin Chinese; grades 6-12) provides the same type of support as *FluentU* but has a more extensive library of authentic materials aligned with each sub-level of proficiency for students of Mandarin Chinese.
- *Khan Academy/Khanmigo* (ELA, math, PE/health, science, social studies, world languages; grades 5-12) provides one-on-one support through Socratic guidance and the Writing Coach. *Khanmigo* prompts students to explore problems, develop solutions independently, and use learner-specific AI-driven feedback to improve composition skills. *Khanmigo* also serves as an AI teaching assistant, offering tools to reduce teachers' administrative workload and enhance instructional planning (i.e., lesson planning, student progress analysis, communication assistance).
- *Kialo* (all subjects, grades 3-12) facilitates structured classroom discussions through a visual format that helps students understand how different ideas are connected. It also provides a suite of teacher tools that educators can use to monitor student progress, provide feedback, and manage discussions effectively. (Note: This resource was selected after the highly popular *Google Jamboard*—a digital whiteboard for collaborative brainstorming and idea generation—was removed from Google Workspace in 2024.)
- *IXL* (ELA, math, science, social studies, Spanish; grades K-12) provides adaptive learning pathways for students' needs based on real-time student responses, ensuring that the level of rigor adjusts for their level. Students receive immediate feedback that provides step-by-step explanations and guidance for improvement. Based on student progress, *IXL* provides students (and their teachers) with tools to track their progress over time as well as skill-set recommendations that are designed to support continued growth.

From March 18 to May 16, the *Core and Supplemental Resource Preview List* located on the district website was viewed 148 times.

We also request that the board approve the removal of the supplemental texts and resources listed on page 7 of the document. The materials listed are no longer used in high school English language arts classes.

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**RECOMMENDED MOTION: I move the governing board approve the addition of the core and supplemental textbooks and resources for the elementary, middle, and high school levels, and the removal of the core and supplemental resources, as presented.**