

Curriculum and Instruction Board Report

February 2019

Curriculum and Instruction

January and the first part of February have been busy for Curriculum and Instruction. Winter NWEA screening for literacy, numeracy, reading, and math is occurring. Data from the screening will be reviewed to assess Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruction and instructional practices as well as ways to support all students in their learning.

The district Vertical Writing Team met for ½ day on January 24. At previous meetings, it was determined that teachers across the district needed guidance as to how to grow students as writers. A 12- stage writing rubric was shared with members of the team and was the focus of the January meeting. The rubric contains characteristics of student writing at each stage and is organized in the same fashion as the STAAR writing rubric. Authentic student writing samples from each member was brought to the meeting and discussed by groups using the 12 stage rubric. The rubric was then revised based on member feedback. The group will continue to meet and refine the process of using the rubric for the remainder of this school year.

It is that time of year again. Campus testing coordinators, central office curriculum staff, principals, and technology staff will meet and go through test administrator and security training at the end of February.

Grades 3-8 and HS are finishing up the first round of benchmarks for STAAR/EOC. Once benchmarks are complete each campus will participate in data conferences to identify students' strengths and weaknesses.

The first STAAR/EOC testing window is April 8th to the 12th. 4th and 7th graders will be administered the Writing assessment, 5th and 8th graders will be administered Reading and Math assessments, and High School will administer the English I and English II End of Course assessment. During the month of May, assessments of all other tested subject areas will be administered.

Professional Development

On Monday, January 21, each campus across the district provided various professional development opportunities. Members of the Curriculum and Instruction team supported campuses with this professional development day. A mentor luncheon was held for mentors and campus administrators as a check-in for support needed for new teachers in the district. February 18th is an upcoming professional development day.

ELAR Curriculum Resource Adoption

Campuses (HES, HIS, HJH) are in the process of reviewing new English Language Arts materials that are up for adoption this year. Committees on each campus will evaluate

sample materials from several different publishing companies and attend presentations before a final recommendation is made to the board in late spring.

Technology

Nine applications for Region 12 Technology Grants were completed by members of HES, HIS, and HHS staff with support from Curriculum and Instruction. Historically, HISD has a positive record of being awarded one of these grants, which are for innovative ways to use technology for student learning.

Other Happenings

Plans are in the works for this year's Eagle Expo of Excellence, which will be held on Monday, March 25th from 4:30-7:00 at Hillsboro High School. Student exhibitors from pre-K through 12 will showcase their learning in the core content areas as well as fine arts and career and technical education.

DEIC met on Monday February 4th. The group spent some time finalizing the 2019-20 calendar. We are very proud of the work the committee has done so far!

The School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) met on February 4th prior to DEIC and began planning the 5th annual "Good to Go from Head to Toe" event. The fair provides assistance and education to economically disadvantaged students and families by providing vision, hearing and dental screenings, information on assistance programs, free school supplies, information regarding vaccinations, free haircuts, and other assistance. The Chamber has reached out to us in hopes of strengthening our partnership with the hospital for this event. The SHAC also reviewed the HISD Wellness Plan.

Submitted by Angela Boyd and Sheila Bowman