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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS MATERIALS ADOPTION RECOMMENDATIONS & ELA
PROJECT TEAM FINAL REPORT – PHASE II****POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION:**

The English Language Arts Project Team was charged to conduct a curriculum review and make recommendations to the Board in accordance with the District's Quality Curriculum Cycle. The Project Team Report (Phase II) is being presented to the Board and, as a part of that work, the recommendations for instructional materials for Grades K-12 are being presented for Board approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

During Phase I the ELA Project Team completed work on the Position Paper, Learning Targets, Best Practices in ELA, K-12 Adoption Rationale, and Professional Development Framework. In addition, instructional resources at all levels were recommended. The Learning Targets, which are based on the Common Core State Standards, provide the core of the curriculum. Instructional materials are tools to help teachers as they move students towards those targets. The Learning Targets, Position Paper, and Best Practices all provided the foundation for the selection criteria used in resources evaluation and selection. The ELA Project Team Report (Phase I) includes all of these documents and recommendations, and was approved by the School Board at the June 1, 2015 meeting.

Phase II of the ELA Project team included review of data as well as further research in reading, writing, spelling, and handwriting at the elementary level and reading practices at the secondary level. Secondary work also included research into assessment tools as well as materials for instruction. An overall goal of Phase II was to create a K-12 alignment in the English Language Arts adoption.

The English Language Arts Phase II report was presented at the April 25, 2016 School Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

(16-656) It is recommended that the School Board approve the English Language Arts Project Team Report (Phase II), including adoption of: Heinemann: Units of Study for Reading with Texts, Heinemann: Units of Study for Writing with Texts, American Reading Company: Foundations, Handwriting Without Tears, Nonfiction Digital (Supplemental) – January 2017 Word Study (Supplemental) – January 2017 for elementary; and American Reading Company IRLA/ENIL, Booksource, Heinemann Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI), and Newsela PRO for secondary.