



WEST BONNER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #83

Curriculum Committee ELA G6-12 Meeting

May 29, 2025 4:30 PM

District Office

134 Main St

Priest River, ID 83856

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call Meeting to Order

Discussion: Meeting Called to Order at 4:30PM

II. 6-12 Study Sync In-Person Presentation

Discussion: Greg Duce presented McGraw Hill Study Sync to the committee. A committee member brought up concerns about the thematic method of teaching literature and the specific literature selections for the units. Greg stated that teachers can customize their curriculum to build their own unit based off a selection of literature available. They can use a genre approach or even another approach depending on their preference.

Every grade level has six different thematic units. With the program, literature can be printed so that students can annotate their copies. Half of the literature available is non-fiction, informational texts. The writing component covers a wide range of necessary lessons and some methods such as peer review to encourage students to create quality work. There's a pacing guide which is compact for instructors to focus on instructional content which is necessary for students to meet grade standards. Every school day there's a blast that students can interact with to read a short piece of literature, answer a quick poll, and write a short statement about the blast they read. All student writing, though anonymous to other students, is not anonymous for instructors. All student submissions are retained for review by the instructor and District.

Students in Study Sync have Assignments, Binder, and Library tabs while navigating the website. In study sync no full novels are available except those in the public sphere. Reading consists of selections from books which meet the goals and standards the unit is attempting to teach. Literature not approved by the district can be suppressed by the District.

A committee member asked if it's possible to search by state standards, or if they can get a list of state standards. The search bar will auto-populate state standards if the teacher begins to type it. The closer the instructor is to filling in the standard code, the more relevant the auto-populated list will be.

An instructor asked if it was possible to create a unit and share it with other teachers. Greg was unsure and would check in to find out if it required administrative action or if the teacher could share the unit district wide.

During the presentation there was difficulty accessing the link for previewing text from "The Necklace." A selection was eventually pulled up. The excerpts had read-along capability, with highlights on the text as it was being read.

McGraw Hill offers experts to train teachers in the use of Study Sync if the District opts to purchase the program for their students. Response time can be less than 30 minutes for instructor support. The program offers the benefit of creating custom units and then making them uniform for all teachers at a specific grade level. This curriculum is the continuation of Open Court, which is the curriculum purchased by the District for Grades K-5.

III. Break Into Discussion Groups 6-8 and 9-12.

Discussion: The Committee spent time discussing the presentation, goals and concerns for District curriculum adoption.

IV. Timeline and Calendar of Events

Discussion: The Committee agreed to meet again on June 5th at 4:30PM in the District Office.

V. Adjourn Meeting

Discussion: Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM