

Curriculum-Literacy Report February 2021

Elective Course Descriptions

Eight Elective Course Descriptions have been submitted to the board this month as informational items. Five Elective Course Descriptions are still in the revision process and will be submitted next month.

ELA Curriculum Committee

Per the district's curriculum review schedule a committee has been formed to evaluate the district's current English Language Arts curriculum for grades 9-12. Committee members include Laura Anania, Abigail Twyman, Nhung Dinh, Joanna Schneider, Lisa Cates, and Charles Becker. The committee held the first of its two meetings on February 5th.

The committee evaluated the current program by asking four questions:

1. What programs and methods is the district currently using?
2. Are these programs and methods effective?
3. If not, what modifications do we need to make to ensure that they are effective?
4. Do those modifications include or require purchasing new materials?

The committee decided that while the current programs and methods are reasonably effective, they would like to examine other programs and methods to see what improvements might be made. The Curriculum Coordinator has put in requests to several vendors for sample materials to review. After these are received the committee will reconvene to evaluate them.

i-Ready

Students in grades K-8 completed the diagnostic examination in i-Ready during the first week of February. All teachers attended a webinar on Friday, February 5th to learn how to read and interpret the data from this diagnostic and to navigate the i-Ready platform. One aspect of this program involves teachers using a scripted lesson to teach very specific skills which were identified as areas of need from each student's diagnostic. Another aspect of this program involves students working independently on online skills also identified as areas of need using each student's diagnostic. Students are now using the i-Ready platform in most K-3 and some 4-8 classrooms.