

## Curriculum and Instruction Report to the Board of ISD 709

June 2018

Dr. Michael Cary, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

### *Purpose*

The purpose of this report is to provide current information on the status of the work of the curriculum and instruction department.

### *Current Project Updates*

- End of year purchasing - each year we review program equipment and materials needs across the organization and work to meet as many of those as possible within available budget. We are wrapping up the end of year purchasing to support the 2018-19 school year
- Leadership transition - I have coordinated dates to meet with our new Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gail Netland. I have putting together resource documents and summaries of important information to help support her in acclimating to her new role within the district. As of our committee meeting date, we will have spent a few days together reviewing the major responsibilities of the position and staffing within the department.
- High school English novel selection - In late April, I worked with the English teachers from East and Denfeld to review and finalize a process for selecting new novels to support our 9th and 11th grade English curriculum. We also created a rubric to use to evaluate potential additions that considered the literary needs within the course and considered cultural perspectives. We have sent invites to various district advisory groups and other community organizations with whom we work to assist in the novel selection process. The goal is to gain community perspective and feedback in the selection of new novels in line with the language in Policy 6035.
- Staff Development Planning - I have been working with a team of principals, district administrators and teachers to establish a plan for the August 28th opening staff development day.
- End of year evaluations - I have been working to complete the final evaluations for teaching staff and administrators I supervise who are up for review in the evaluation cycle.
- Math Pilot project - we have been planning a pilot and training to shift to CPM for new math materials in our courses for students who are off sequence in math at the secondary level. CPM uses a different instructional approach to teaching math. We piloted CPM in our introductory Algebra course for students who were off track. Teachers reported that students were much more engaged and were experiencing greater levels of success using the CPM curriculum and instructional approach. We do not have any empirical data as of yet to support this claim, but hope to add that to the observations our teaching staff have provided. We are planning to pilot the Intermediate Algebra materials this coming year to provide continuity for those students who were in the CPM based Algebra course during the current year.