



Curriculum Committee Meeting(Cancelled)

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

3:00 PM

Remote Session

- I. Call to order
- II. Approval of June 2024 meeting minutes
- III. Introduction of Weston's new Curriculum Instructional Leaders for 6-12 English and 6-12 Social Studies
- IV. Summer Curriculum Update
 - Summer Curriculum Academy
 - Curriculum at a Glance for Parents
- V. Powerschool enhancements
 - Portfolio+ and Assessment
 - Demographic information/forms
- VI. Panorama survey window for families, students, and staff Monday, September 16 through Friday, October 11
- VII. Adjournment

Curriculum Committee Meeting

June 11, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Weston Middle School LLC

Present Committee Members:

Bernadette Kingsley (Chairperson), David Felton, Chap Hoepfner

Present Administration:

Tina Henckel, Ed.D, Assistant Superintendent; Lisa Barbiero, Superintendent; Meghan Conetta, WHS Principal; Dan Doak, WMS Principal; Pattie Falber, WIS Principal; Laura Kaddis, HES Principal; MaryFaith Zanghi, K-12 Health & PE CIL; Kate O'Keefe, K-12 Visual Arts CIL; Liz Morris, K-12 Performing Arts CIL; Mercedes Fernandes, K-12 World Language CIL; Andrea Noble, K-2 ELA & Social Studies CIL; Kelly Delvecchio, K-2 Math & Science CIL; Alex Bluestein, 3-5 ELA & Social Studies CIL; Erin Barlow, 3-5 Math & Science CIL; Jessica DiBuono, 6-12 ELA CIL; Nick Torres, 6-12 Social Studies CIL; Riley Rapoport, 6-12 Math CIL; Beth Lancaster, 6-12 Science and Technology CIL; Phillip Cross, Finance and Operations Director; Tracy Edwards, PPS Director

Members of the Public:

Peter Gordon

1. Call to Order

The meeting called to order at 3:03 p.m.

Discussion:

Dr. Henckel reviewed the general purpose of the Curriculum Committee meetings and reviewed meeting norms.

2. Approval of May 2024 meeting minutes

Motion Passed: Move that the Curriculum Committee approve the May 2024 meeting minutes. This motion made by Chad Hoepfner and seconded by Bernadette Kingsley.

2 Yeas - 0 Nays

3. Presentation of the 2024 Academic Year in Review

Discussion:

Dr. Henckel introduced the new structure of the Academic Year in Review presentation. She highlighted the focus and mission for the Curriculum Instructional Leader (CIL) Team for the 2023-24 school year and going forward.

Health and PE Curriculum Leader, MaryFaith Zanghi spoke on curriculum revision as the focus for the 2023-24 year. Namely, the skills based instruction revisions that took place this year.

Curriculum Leaders Alex Bluestein, Andrea Noble and Dr. Jessica DiBuono spoke on the curriculum revision and development for English Language Arts. The department focused on Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) that included academic as well as social-emotional support to maximize student performance outcomes. They leveraged new assessment systems for data analysis to inform best practices. In their discussion, they highlighted the implementation of the American Reading Company (ARC) program for K-5 and the next steps for teachers K-12.

Curriculum Leaders Nick Torres, Alex Bluestein and Andrea Noble presented Social Studies K-12. Their focus was to implement new standards put forth from the State at each grade level cohesively so there are no gaps or redundancies. In addition, the focus for the lower grades was to engage in authentic tasks and integrate into English language arts and other subjects such as math and science.

Mathematics K-12 was presented by Kelly DelVecchio, Erin Barlow and Riley Rapoport. The lower schools focused on empowering students' learning strategies. They spoke on the implementation of Illustrative Math new curricula for grades 1-5 and grades 6-8. Grades 6-12 engaged in student-focused learning and promoting thinking classrooms.

Science K-12 was presented by Kelly DelVecchio, Erin Barlow and Beth Lancaster. They spoke on their collaboration on piloting a new platform for assessment in order to gather meaningful data. The focus is to create standards that follow the inquiry method. The CILs spoke on the success of the district-wide solar eclipse event and the positive feedback from students.

Digital Literacy and Information Technology was presented by Beth Lancaster. She spoke on computer science standards and expanding the computer coding experience in the lower grades.

Curriculum Leader Liz Morris presented on K-12 music. This year grades K-5 focused on music literacy—reading, writing and notating music. Grades 6-8 focused on curriculum in the non-performing courses. She also reflected on supporting instrumental programs and spoke on anticipated curriculum revisions. Ms. Morris highlighted some of the performance opportunities in the Weston community as well as performances in the schools.

Curriculum Leader Kate O'Keefe presented on K-12 visual arts. This year the department implemented a district-wide critique and responding rubric, which is aligned with National Core Standards. She reflected on providing equitable experiences for all students and providing more opportunities for exhibition. She highlighted a notable student achievement—two students won the grand prize in CSPAN's Student Cam documentary film contest.

Curriculum Leader Mercedes Fernandes presented on K-12 world language. She spoke the K-5 Spanish program update on curricular units as they transitioned from pandemic years where the instructional time was impacted. New benchmark assessments have been implemented in grades 2 and 5. In grades 6-8, for both the Spanish and French programs the focus was centered on reading and

listening skills; they continued to implement baseline and benchmark assessments. In grades 9-12, the department updated curriculum in high priority courses. In all 9-12 languages, they focused on interpretive and expressive skills. They also placed focus on social-emotional support for world language students to build resilience and perseverance in the learning process.

Each of the departments had display tables and with artifacts demonstrating the teaching and learning from the 2023-24 school year. After the PowerPoint presentation, the Board members spent time visiting the displays and asked the CILs questions on their displays.

Dr. Kingsley stated that she was impressed with the level of collaboration, especially the Cognitive Coaching CIL program. She appreciated the continuity and vertical articulation of the curriculum K-12. She commented on the interesting and creative ways in which the departments are tracking data. She stated she appreciated the social-emotional thread through all of the subject areas.

Mr. Hoepfner thanked the team and commented on the powerful impact of the artifacts. He appreciated the rigor of the curriculum and the task of communicating it to the group. He reflected on how the district might increase the CIL program effectiveness. He commented that the presentation clearly represented the work beyond test score numbers.

Mr. Felton commented on the CIL program. He suggested that it would be helpful to have some data points from teacher who received the coaching.

Dr. Henckel stated that the district has a very clearly defined vision and mission for the CIL program. Phase two is to start rolling out that mission.

4. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June Curiano

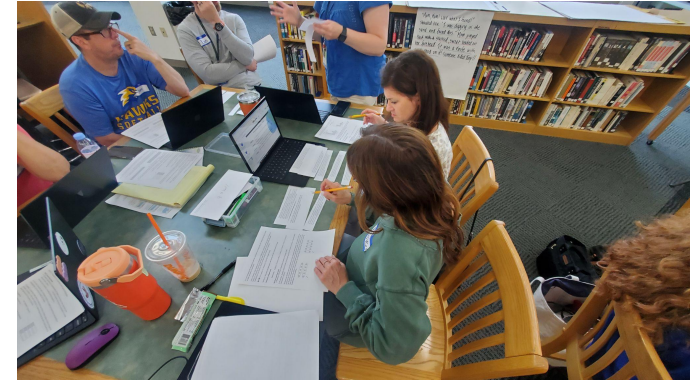


Summer Curriculum Update!

Board of Education Curriculum Meeting
September 10, 2024

Summer Curriculum Academy ('24)

- June 19 Phase 2 Began: Full team training grounded in research led by CIL Team
 - Review Weston's Curriculum Framework & Design Templates
 - Review how to make decisions around standards and content using the
 - Understanding by Design (Grant Wiggins & Jay McTighe) &
 - Universal Design for Learning (Why, What, How)
 - Focus on quality assessment and standards alignment
- June 19-23, 2024
 - Allocation of days range from 2 to 5 full days per team
- Who is working and how will they be organized?
 - Approximately 64 teachers
 - 33 different teams across K-12
 - 8 different content areas
- Targeted curriculum based tasks to be completed per team
 - K-12 Scope and Sequence
 - Pacing Guide per grade
 - Unit 1 Planner and beyond
 - Assessment Design



2024 NEW! Curriculum at a Glance Documents go Live!



Weston Public Schools
Curriculum-at-a-Glance

Grade 5 Math Description: The big ideas in grade 5 include: developing fluency with addition and subtraction of fractions, developing understanding of multiplication and division of fractions in limited cases (unit fractions divided by whole numbers and whole numbers divided by unit fractions), extending division to two-digit divisors, developing an understanding of operations with decimals to hundredths, developing fluency with whole number and decimal operations, and developing understanding of volume.

Unit 1: Finding Volume

Essential Question(s):

- What is volume and how is it used in the world around me?
- How do you determine the volume of a cube or rectangular prism?
- How can three-dimensional shapes be represented and analyzed?
- How do you solve problems relating to volume?

Student Understandings (By the end of this unit, students will...)

- Understand volume is the space taken up by a solid object.
- Determine the volume of a rectangular prism by determining the number of unit cubes needed to fill it.
- Use the layered structure in a rectangular prism will help to find volume.
- Find volume using length x width x height or area of base x height.
- Understand solid figures that are composed of two or more right rectangular prisms, can be decomposed to find the volume of the entire shape.
- Write a simple expression which can be solved.

Key Learning Experiences

Summative Assessment

Performance task: Lots and Lots of Garbage



As
enc

We
lear



3. We

re



7