



SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46

INSTRUCTIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 17, 2011

8:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

ESC, ROOM 240

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Attendance

Members: Celia Banks, Barb Bettis, Jan Booth, Lori Brandes, Susan Collins, Terri DeDecker, Maryellyn Friel, Kim Hancock, Doug Johnson, Denise Lockwald, Patricia Makishima, Jennifer McDonnell, Wendy Molof, Sahar Nammari, Lisa Olsem, Nan Strohmaier, Rosa Syphers, Katie Thomson, Pamela Tonyan, Lisa Whitmer, Renee Zabel

Absent: Susan Colombe, Heather Fodor, Lavonne Smiley

Observers:

Guests:

Presenters: Jennifer McDonnell, John Hillary

Lynn Glaser welcomed members of council.

The Instructional Council Minutes from January 20, 2011 were reviewed. A correction is to be made to the spelling of a name. A motion by Katie Thomson to approve the minutes, seconded by Barb Bettis, motion to approve carried.

I. Initial Presentations

- A. Mathematics Textbook Adoptions – Proposal Summary and Background Information - Jennifer McDonnell and John Hillary presenting. All middle and high school mathematics teachers were invited to participate in the textbook evaluation and selection process. A total of thirty teachers and Math/Science Divisionals voluntarily served on the textbook evaluation and selection committee. Each member also served on one or more individual course evaluation and selection subcommittees. Three major textbook publishers, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, Holt McDougal, and Pearson-Prentice Hall were candidates. Each publisher provided the course subcommittee members and district math teachers with copies of student texts, teacher editions, associated teacher materials, and student support materials for each candidate textbook.

Publisher representatives made presentations to the committee members, administrators, and other math teachers on five dates from September 29 – October 14 showcasing their products.

A needs assessment was developed and posted on “Survey Monkey.” A total of 97 district staff members responded to the math textbook needs assessment.

The textbook evaluation and selection process used the “Muther process” which is designed to insure the objective evaluation of instructional materials and the eventual identification of the best available textbook.

The district administration developed a general professional development plan in partnership with each recommended textbook publisher. The respective plans are intended to provide for

a smooth transition to the new textbooks as well as ongoing support for implementation and evaluation.

- B. Middle School Pre-Algebra 1 (Grade 7) & Middle School Pre-Algebra 2 (Grades 7 & 8) Jennifer McDonnell, John Hillary, Amy Ingente, Lisa DelGiudice, and Jennifer Wilnewic presenting. Pre-Algebra 1 (Grade 7) - Prentice Hall Mathematics: Course 2 – this course is designed for seventh grade students. Topics include ratio, proportion, percent, geometry, measurement, probability and statistics; a basic understanding of variables in expressions, equations, inequalities, and formulas; and introduction to rational numbers.

Pre-Algebra 2 (Grades 7 & 8) – Prentice Hall Mathematics: Algebra Readiness. This course is for seventh grade students who are in the top 80th percentile on standardized mathematics test (e.g., MAP, ISAT) and for eight grade students who have successfully completed Pre-Algebra 1.

- C. High School Algebra 1-2 & Algebra 1.5 - Jennifer McDonnell, John Hillary, Guy Snyder, Hilda Curda and Peggy Loukenas presenting. Prentice Hall Mathematics: Algebra 1 this textbook was chosen for Algebra 1-2, this course is the foundation for high school mathematics.

Prentice Hall Mathematics: Algebra 1 (Foundation Series) was chosen for Algebra 1.5. Algebra 1.5 is the course Algebra 1-2 taught in 1.5 periods per school day.

- D. High School Algebra 3-4 and Algebra 3-4 Honors, Algebra 3-4 w/Support – Jennifer McDonnell, John Hillary, Greg Snyder, Hilda Curda and Peggy Loukenas presenting. The textbook chosen for Algebra 3-4 and Honors Algebra 3-4 is Prentice Hall Mathematics: Algebra 2. This course is designed for students who have successfully completed 2 years of mathematics through Geometry.

Prentice Hall Mathematics: Algebra 2 (Foundation Series) was chosen for Algebra 3-4 w/Support.

- E. Geometry, Geometry w/Support, Honors Geometry - Jennifer McDonnell, John Hillary, Meghan Stanley, Melissa Tuftedal, Julie Huber, and Karen Daniels presenting. Geometry by Larson from Holt McDougal Littell was chosen for the Geometry course. Geometry: Concepts and Skills by Larson, Bioswell, & Stiff from Holt McDougal Littell were chosen for Geometry w/Support. Geometry by Burger from Holt McDougal Littell was chosen for Honors Geometry.

- F. Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry, Honors Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry - Jennifer McDonnell, John Hillary, Karen Daniels, Christine Bowen and Julie Huber presenting. Precalculus by Blitzer from Pearson/Prentice Hall was chosen for Precalculus/Trigonometry. The textbook, Precalculus by Demana, Waits, Foley, & Kennedy is the current book being used in the Honors Precalculus/Trigonometry class. Teachers voted to stay with the current book as the changes were not significant enough to warrant purchasing new materials.

- G. AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC - Jennifer McDonnell, John Hillary, Rob Pascolini and Christine Bowen presenting. AP Calculus (9th Edition) by Larson & Edwards from Holt McDougal/Cengage was selected for these courses.

Teachers used a variety of activities with students in classrooms to evaluate the textbooks. The teachers at each site taught various lessons from each of the candidate texts to compare how the lessons were designed, written, and presented to students, as well as how well students were able to understand the material. Teachers also examined the supplemental materials, looking for a variety of activities intended to meet the needs of the students at several achievement levels. Some teachers gave assessments to the students from the textbooks to compare how questions were written and the level of difficulty. After teachers evaluated each candidate text, the committee met again to reach consensus on the best textbook for our students and district.

Teachers presenting at Instructional Council demonstrated software and reviewed different websites available to teachers, students and parents to help their student succeed.

- H. Supporting Technology Presentation - Jennifer McDonnell and John Hillary presenting. Demonstrations were provided on the use of the “I-Clicker,” an electronic multiple choice device that helps provide feedback on what students are learning, the Smartboard, an interactive whiteboard system, and software that supports the math content areas.

II. Action Items

III. Information Items

IV. Dialogue Topic

These items were added at meeting as a result of a request from council members.

- A. Literacy Framework Survey
- B. Professional Growth Committee
- C. Gateway to Technology

V. Other

Lisa Olsem made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lisa Whitmer made a motion to amend the motion to adjourn to continue discussion, Barb Bettis seconded the motion to amend, motion carried.

Lisa Whitmer requested discussion regarding the Math textbook proposals; Literacy Framework Survey and the Professional Development Committee.

Kim Hancock motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:33 PM, Lisa Olsem seconded. Motion carried.