



School District U-46

Middle School English Language Arts for School Year 2024-2025

Board of Education Presentation

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Purpose



Recommend piloting Middle School English Language Arts curriculum and resources for the school year 2024-2025 to bring forward for full adoption in 2025-2026 school year.

Alignment to Strategic Plan

U46 STRATEGIC PLAN AUG 2022 Revised



Student Success

It is our responsibility to ensure all students are engaged in rigorous learning, receive quality core instruction, and can develop the skills they need for better life chances and opportunities. By helping students develop self and peer agency, they will develop a growth mindset as they learn to expand their perspectives.

Effective & Engaged Staff

We will value, develop, recruit, and retain a forward-thinking, highly qualified, and diverse workforce. We will establish a robust process for measuring employee engagement to identify and proactively address employee engagement issues.

Culture, Climate & Community

We will engage in meaningful and effective relationships with our students, families and the greater community and will ensure that our schools are welcoming and inviting places for all of our U-46 students and families. We will become a choice district that inspires families to join us.

Excellence, Efficiency & Accountability

We will advocate for and utilize systems and resources that promote fiscal equity, operational excellence, efficiency and accountability. It is our moral imperative to change until all our systems measurably work for all students.



Rationale

Current curriculum is outdated.

EL Education is designed as an English Language Arts curriculum focusing on grade-level literacy skills, character, academic rigor, and active citizenship while directly aligning with our definition of a Thriving Adolescent.

Students will have equal access to high-quality complex text for their grade level being given three texts as consumables.

Students will create and produce narrative, expository, and argumentative writing that weaves in their readings.

Rationale

Students will have the opportunity to create products advocating for something of choice through podcasts, e-books, and other media productions.

Teachers will have equal opportunity to pilot instructional lessons, resources, and professional support to ensure a guaranteed and viable curriculum is being delivered to our students.

Middle school students who are academically advanced may find regular coursework too easy and become disengaged. Honors courses offer them a chance to be challenged and remain engaged in their studies.

Process

Call to Committee
Spring 2023

Developed:

- Frameworks
- Assessments
- Text Sets

Resource Review:

- EL Education Units
- UnBoundEd Units
- CPS Skyline Units

Instructional Council

Recommended to Pilot for
school year 2024-2025:

- Substantial change
- Teacher input

Recommended Teacher Resources



Teachers will have access to instructional materials through:

Print

EL Curriculum Guides

Trade books

Online

Open-up Resources

Canvas courses

Recommended Student Resources



Three Consumable Trade Books per student

- Annotation Practice
- Relevance to Students
- Equitable Access
- Enhanced Reading Comprehension

*e-book and audio available

Recommended Materials

Classroom Libraries and Building Library



- Book Clubs
- Independent Reading
- Background Knowledge
- Research and Inquiry

Recommendations for Implementation

Implement English Language Arts curriculum and resources as a pilot for the 2024-2025 school year

Provide book bags for each ELA teacher in grades 7 and 8

Merge the Challenge and Gifted ELA courses into Honors

Begin training and professional development for each course level: Regular, ESL, Cross Cat, and Honors August 2024

Materials Cost

<u>Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Cost/Item</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
7th and 8th grade Trade Books *consumable	5,225	\$30.00	\$156,750.00
Teacher Guides	250	\$37.00	\$9,250.00
Book Club Trade Books	200	\$1,800.00	\$360,000.00
Teacher Professional Development			\$100,000.00
Total			\$626,000.00

Plans for the Evaluation of Change

Teachers will have the opportunity to evaluate the courses during curriculum team meetings.

Data will be reviewed from indicators such as:

- Standardized test scores
- Universal Screener scores
- Student enrollment in 9th grade ELA 1 Honors

Text Choice:

- Student reading surveys through the library
- Teacher reflection surveys

