

**FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

-- 520 FIFTH AVENUE, CURRICULUM LIBRARY --

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2018

5:30 P.M.

A G E N D A

A. PRELIMINARIES

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Paula Addis

Kyra Aizstrauts

Dr. Obadare (Dare) Awoleke

Dr. Leah Berman Williams

Oscar Beausoleil

Joe Dallaire

Tara DeV Vaughn

Sharon Hildebrand

Earnest Kincade

Allyson Nicholson

Svetlana Nuss

Earl Peterson

Fé Seymour

Dr. Heather Willis DDS

Timothy Doran

Melanie Hadaway

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Recommend approval of the meeting agenda for February 1, 2018

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Recommend approval of the meeting minutes for January 11, 2018

D. OVERVIEW OF THE CURRICULUM PROCESS & REVISION

E. GENERAL COMMENTS/ QUESTIONS

F. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings

Curriculum Committee Meetings

March 1, 2018 – Curriculum Library

April 5, 2018 – Curriculum Library

April 19, 2018 (Tentative) – Board Room

**Fairbanks North Star Borough School District
Curriculum Advisory Committee**

Minutes of January 11, 2018

Mrs. Hadaway called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. in the Administrative Center Boardroom, 520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Members Present:

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Kyra Aizstrauts | Earnest Kincade | Timothy Doran |
| Dr. Leah Berman Williams | Allyson Nicholson | Melanie Hadaway |
| Oscar Beausoleil | Earl Peterson | |
| Sharon Hildebrand | Dr. Heather Willis | |

Members Absent:

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Paula Addis | Tara DeVaughn | Fé Seymour |
| Dr. Obadare Awoleke | Felicia Jackson | |
| Joe Dallaire | Svetlana Nuss | |

Staff Present:

Jennifer Morgan

INTRODUCTIONS

Members introduced themselves to the rest of the committee.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Peterson moved to accept the January 11, 2018 agenda; Ms. Aizstrauts seconded. Hearing no objections or further comment, the motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes for the November 2, 2017 meeting contained typographical errors. Mrs. Hadaway asked the committee if they agreed to approve the amended minutes with the typos corrected. Dr. Berman Williams seconded the proposal to accept the amended minutes for the November 2, 2017 meeting. Hearing no objections or further comment, the motion was approved as amended.

CURRICULUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS

Mrs. Hadaway briefly reviewed the proposed CAC bylaws, highlighting specific items such as the length of terms, attendance policy, and scope of responsibilities. She mentioned the CAC application, while not part of the bylaws, was given to members for them to peruse. Those that would like to continue serving on the committee next school year will need to submit an application. In order to have staggered terms, the first application process will open up for both one- and two-year terms. Furthermore, a quorum is no longer required and the chair has the option to contact habitually absent members to discuss whether they will continue serving on the committee. Mrs. Hadaway also pointed out that when a recommendation on curriculum adoptions or other curriculum issues go before the board, it will now be an administration recommendation. However, as stated in the scope of responsibilities under the proposed bylaws, this committee can also provide a separate letter of recommendation to the school board. Discussion ensued.

Dr. Willis asked whether the term "year" refers to a calendar or school year and, upon receiving clarification from Mrs. Hadaway that members will serve on the school year schedule, suggested this clarification be added to the bylaws.

Mr. Peterson inquired as to when the application process will open, and Mrs. Hadaway responded that historically this has occurred in the spring. The committee discussed the option of having new members start at the beginning of the school year, in August, versus having all members start in November when the school board appoints members to committees. Mrs. Hadaway suggested member applications be submitted in the spring and processed during the summer.

Depending on their membership category, members' term can be either one year or two. Dr. Berman Williams suggested changing the language in the bylaws to specify "voting committee members shall not serve more than four consecutive years," removing the phrase "two consecutive terms," and also indicate a term starts in August and ends in May.

It was proposed the CAC bylaws be amended to clarify that members' terms are school years, starting in August and running until May, and the language under length of term change to "voting committee members shall not serve more than four consecutive years." Dr. Berman Williams made a motion to approve the CAC bylaws, as amended; Mr. Kincade seconded. Hearing no further comment, the committee voted. All were in favor, none opposed; the motion passed as amended.

CURRICULA REVISION UPDATE

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Health Science

Mrs. Hadaway informed the committee that draft two of the CTE Health Science curriculum is now available for public comment. Included with the curriculum is a cover letter, which outlines specific areas to focus and provide feedback. CTE, unlike some other district curricula, is based on industry standards. Often what is taught in these courses is determined by an outside agency or industry, with goal of moving students toward certification. This document also includes several Programs of Study, listed in the appendix, which is to be used by district staff when communicating with parents and students about career goals. Discussion followed.

Dr. Willis inquired if any of the courses or exams have an age requirement, and was informed that some do (e.g. students must be 18 for the EMT course and CNA certification exam). She recommended Health Science course descriptions or Programs of Study list age requirements; Mrs. Hadaway agreed.

Dr. Berman Williams pointed out that statistics is not listed on the Program of Study for nursing. Mrs. Hadaway suggested that if Dr. Berman Williams thinks this course is something students should be taking, she provide this feedback through the public comment form or by sending it to Ms. Morgan.

World Language

Mrs. Hadaway provided the committee with an update on the World Language curriculum revision. The current adopted elementary curriculum is grade banded and introduces the idea that people around the world speak different languages. Elementary grades do not have separate language courses, but instead the curriculum is incorporated into social studies, PE, and music. Middle schools have exploratory classes where students are exposed to two languages, and high school students are given the opportunity to specialize and take specific language courses.

Mrs. Hadaway informed the committee that a workgroup recently met to discuss some of the challenges of an elementary world language program. This group was passionate about a foreign language immersion program. Mrs. Hadaway pointed out that past attempts to have a foreign language immersion school were unsuccessful, and mentioned the difficulty Boreal Sun Charter School has had with their attempt to have dual language program.

Mrs. Hadaway informed the committee that the Alaska Native language section of the curriculum is still being revised, with the help of Tanana Chiefs Conference. Draft two will be available for public comment soon, and will include a cover letter that lists some philosophical questions and asks for input on specific topics. Writers are struggling with how much detail to put in the elementary curriculum, and how to articulate the FNSBSD values world language and wants it to be included in education, while knowing there will not be separate world language classes at an elementary level.

Mr. Beausoleil inquired as to the goal of the World Language curriculum and how Alaska Native languages support it. There was discussion about Alaska Native languages and the various links between different languages. Ms. Hildebrand emphasized the importance of understanding cultural context, and respecting the languages and culture where one currently lives. Other members provided examples of similarities between Alaska Native languages and others languages throughout the world.

Mrs. Hadaway announced that the revision of the STEM curriculum will start this spring, and the next core subject revision will most likely be either English or Social Studies.

GENERAL COMMENTS/ QUESTIONS

Each member was given the opportunity to ask questions or provide comment; no final questions or comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Hildebrand moved to adjourn the meeting; Dr. Willis seconded. Hearing no objections or further comment, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.