

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

Minutes of February 7, 2019

Ms. Daml, who filled in for Ms. Hadaway, called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. in the Administrative Center, Curriculum Library, 520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Members Present:

Paula Addis
Grant Guy

Aimee Hart

Earl Peterson
Deborah Rinio

Nonvoting Member Present:

Chrya Sanderson

Members Excused:

Tara DeVaughn
Sharon Hildebrand
Earnest Kincade
Fé Seymour
Christina Sinclair

Nonvoting Member Excused:

Melanie Hadaway

Members Absent:

Jessica Eid
Heather Stewart

Staff Present:

Jennifer Morgan
Michelle Daml,
(Elementary Curriculum
Coordinator)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Peterson moved to accept the February 7, 2019, agenda; Ms. Addis seconded. Hearing no objection or comment, the motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Peterson moved to accept the January 10, 2019, minutes; Mr. Guy seconded. Hearing no objection or comment, the motion was approved.

CURRICULUM REVISION

Ms. Morgan provided an update on the CTE Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics (TDL) curriculum revision. In January the curriculum writers met with representatives from the local automotive industry to discuss what they looked for in new hires and other automotive-related topics, such as whether these businesses recognize and value Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Education Foundation certified programs (previously known as NATEF). Right now, North Pole High School has an ASE Maintenance and Light Repair accredited program, which is highly valued in the industry, and the school is going to work on recertification during the summer of 2019. After completing research and interviews with local industry, the CTE Department and writers determined it is important for Hutchison High School to become ASE accredited as well. The school is currently looking into the steps necessary to accomplish this, and plans to start the process this spring with the goal completing it by the summer of 2020.

The curriculum writers are revising the small gasoline engines pathway, with the goal of both schools having an ASE accreditation by the 2020-2021 school year. They are revising the auto body/painting pathway, which provides students with the opportunity to obtain I-Car certification at the end. The group is also developing a light diesel pathway, and currently researching what type of certification can be offered at the end of this. The first draft of this curriculum, which will include only automotive courses, will be sent out for public comment soon. Then, writers will meet again in March to develop the aviation portion of the curriculum, which will be included in the second draft.

CURRICULUM UPDATE

Ms. Daml provided an update on the 7-12 English Language Arts and K-12 Social Studies curriculum. She shared that those who attended the January 30, 2019 community forum at the Administrative Center provided great verbal feedback, and some also completed an online curriculum survey. At the time of this committee meeting there were over a hundred comments about Social Studies and very few English Language Arts comments. This could be because the Social Studies curriculum is being reviewed for all grade levels and encompasses a wide range of high school courses, such as Economics and Psychology, while only the secondary English curriculum is being reviewed. Another possibility for the vast difference in the number of responses is that most people recognized schools will teach English and Math, which follow the Alaska Standards, while several comments focused on

Social Studies not being taught at all, or very little, in elementary. Ms. Daml also mentioned several Language Arts comments suggested putting less emphasis on literature/classic novels and more emphasis on informational texts, which is a big shift in the community.

The groups have also been working really hard on a portrait of a graduate. The Social Studies group has K-12 teachers, so it is interesting for not only the middle and high school teachers to think about the portrait of a graduate, but to have Kindergarten teachers discuss this topic as well. The groups are looking at best practices in Alaska and across the nation. Next week, both groups will also look at mastery versus competency versus proficiency. These words are often interchangeable, so the groups will define what these words mean as they move forward with this process.

Both curriculum groups, Language Arts and Social Studies, have already met separately, and will have the opportunity at the next meeting to get together and discuss cross-content. There are three more meetings scheduled for this school year, and then these groups will end the research and review stage in April. The next part of the process is for the writers to meet August 5-9 and revise the curriculum. Some people have applied to be on both the review and revision groups, while others have only applied to be a part of the writing group. There will be five elementary, five middle school, and five high school representatives in the writing groups, made up of teachers, librarians, sped staff, ELL, and someone from the university. The groups are divided into K-5, 6-8, and 9-12, and the Social Studies group has a representative from every K-8 grade and various high school subjects.

After Ms. Daml finished updating the committee, discussion ensued.

PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

Ms. Daml informed the committee the English Language Arts and Social Studies curriculum groups completed the same Portrait of a Graduate activity the committee did during the January meeting. She asked the committee to look over the list of CAC responses from the previous meeting, and come up with a list of their own top three choices under each category (parent, employer, college professor, and city council member). Then, they were asked to compare it to the list of teachers' responses and see if their top three choices were in both lists. Ms. Daml asked if any committee member wished to share and if there were any surprises. Discussion ensued.

GENERAL COMMENTS/ QUESTIONS

Ms. Addis wished she was at the last meeting, stating that it looked very interesting and is sorry she wasn't there.

Ms. Rinio is glad the English Language Arts and Social Studies groups have the opportunity to talk together and across grade levels. It is important to have diverse perspectives.

Mr. Peterson commented that a Hutchison High School teacher had the opportunity to collaborate between Social Studies and English on National History Day. He stated that collaboration between programs is a good thing. On a personal note, he remarked that if that same teacher is picked to be a writer in August, then he will need to find a babysitter.

Ms. Sanderson is glad to see Hutchison looking into ASE accreditation. North Pole High has had this for years, and one graduate of the program got a job with a NASCAR team. Last year, this program participated in an event where they had to put together a Ford Fiesta and turn the key to make sure it worked. They missed bringing home the trophy by just a few points. Ms. Sanderson commented that this is an awesome program. The trade academies look for ASE certification, and students who go through the North Pole High program have a step up.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Addis moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Rinio seconded. Hearing no objection or further comment, the meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.