

CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT, AND PROGRAM EVALUATION (CAPE) COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Curriculum Room, TSO

Minutes

- 1) Call to order- 6:10

Present Michael Murphy, Rosa Fernandes, Debbie Brooks, Anna Mahon (Assistant Superintendent), Mark Jewett (5-8 math instructional coach), James Fitzpatrick (K-4 math instructional coach)

- 2) Public Comment- None

- 3) New K-8 math curricular tool-Illustrative Math (IM)

Dr. Mahon presented a memo to members of CAPE that outlined the reason for exploring a change in the K-8 math curricular tool along with the process that was followed and the outcome. Mr. Fitzpatrick presented details of the IM tool and the committee held a discussion around transitioning to the new tool over the next 2 to 3 school years as well as supporting those students who will 1) only have 1 official year with the new curriculum tool in 8th grade and 2) those who will still be using the current curricular tool (MyMath) in grades K-3. Mr. Jewett shared that a number of teachers in grade 7 have been piloting materials and units from Illustrative Math as well as adopting instructional practices supported through the tool, so the official phase in with 8th grade next year is a natural progression. Dr. Mahon and Mr. Fitzpatrick explained the plan for continuing to support teachers and students in the earlier grades with math skill development using both the currently approved tool as well as piloting approaches and some materials with the earlier grades as we prepare for full adoption during the following school years.

The Illustrative Math tool helps support dialogue about and application of math through a real-world approach and gets students talking about math so they are interfacing with it directly. IM fosters a more intuitive approach to learning math and a consensus was clear from the committee (comprising more than 20 educators across grades K-8) that this tool will help serve our teachers and students as we move forward in enhancing our academic skill building for our students. Members of CAPE unanimously agreed to recommend the curricular tool to the full Brookfield BOE for approval.

4) Updates:

- a) PDEC-The district will be switching from EdReflect (which is no longer offering this service) to using Google Classroom as the platform to house and maintain teacher/administrator evaluation documents. In addition, the flexibilities from the state department have been extended through the 23-24 school year to allow school districts' PDECs to create and adopt evaluation plans that align with the newly-approved expectations set forth from the CSDE.
 - b) CSDE K-3 Reading-The CSDE has asked for a letter of explanation from any district that has asked for a 1 year extension in adoption of one of the CSDE approved K-3 reading curricular tools. Dr. Mahon will complete this process prior to the deadline of May 19th, 2023.
 - c) State Testing-SAT, SBA, NGSS-State testing has begun, with the online (1st time) SAT completed at the high school for all 11th grade students prior to the April break and the SBA administration for students in grades 3-8 taking place in the last few weeks of April through mid-May. The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) test will be administered to 5th, 8th, and 11th grade students during the month of May, as well.
- 5) Strategic Plan discussion exercise-Dr. Mahon led a discussion with members of the committee to crosswalk the 4 overarching goals of the Plan of Strategic Action with the agenda items and conversations that ensued during the meeting to look for alignment. Members of CAPE reflected on where the alignment was evident, and what next steps may be expected based on what was shared at the meeting and the aspirations of the district as outlined in the Plan of Strategic Action.
- 6) Good of the order-No topics raised
- 7) Adjournment-7:08pm