

ABINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
ABINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA

SUPERINTENDENT'S
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

REGARDING: **English Language Arts**

Section: **Superintendent's
Committees**

Effective Date: November 9, 2023

Reissued: NEW

See Also:

Background

The English Language Arts (ELA) program at the elementary school level includes the *Journeys* program, published by Houghton Mifflin, copyright 2017, and adopted by Abington School District in 2017 for use in grades K-5. There is a need to update the instructional materials as the program is being discontinued. Further, there is a continued need for a comprehensive program that addresses the disciplines delineated in the Pennsylvania's Core Standards for English Language Arts while also addressing the need for knowledge-building and foundational skills referenced in the science of reading research.

An Elementary English Language Arts (ELA) committee is recommended to be established to review our pedagogical approach to teaching ELA, the content addressed, and the methodology utilized in the teaching and learning of ELA for students in grades K-5, to recommend appropriate instructional materials, to identify needs for professional learning, and to propose an implementation plan for the new materials.

Committee Charge

The Elementary ELA Committee will undertake a comprehensive review of the content addressed by state standards and make specific recommendations with regard to instructional materials for ELA. In the formulation of its recommendations, the committee is directed to consider:

- Chapter 4 mandates, PA Academic and Core Standards for English Language Arts, and the PDE Curriculum Framework for ELA
- Research related to evidence-based instructional practices and the essential components of ELA instruction, including methodology of content delivery
- Equitable practices and the diverse needs of our student population
- Professional development and parent/guardian resources
- Print and digital materials that integrate with existing systems

Committee Tasks and Responsibilities

- 1. Review Chapter 4 mandates, PA Academic and Core Standards for English Language Arts, and the PDE Curriculum Framework for ELA including reading, writing, speaking and listening.
- 2. Review educational research and literature to determine evidence-based instructional practices and the essential components of ELA instruction.
- 3. Develop an understanding of the pedagogical approach best suited to meet the learning needs of Abington students; establish priorities and review evaluation criteria.
- 4. Evaluate selected programs with respect to the criteria and guidelines established for the committee, with attention to comprehensiveness of program, methodology of content delivery, instructional framework designed to diverse learning needs, and technology integration.
- 5. Develop an implementation plan that addresses curriculum, instruction, and assessment as well as professional development for effective integration of the new ELA program and a long-range plan for continued support and monitoring.
- 6. Prepare a report that reflects the recommendations of the committee with respect to instructional materials, program implementation, and professional development.

Time Frame

November 2023	Committee appointed
December 2023 – January 2024	Tasks 1, 2, and 3
February 2024 – May 2024	Tasks 3 and 4
October 2024 – November 2024	Tasks 4, 5, and 6

Committee Membership

Dr. Stephanie Viola	Co-Chair, Assistant Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning	Administration
Ms. Janine Sack	Co-Chair, Supervisor of Literacy	Administration
Dr. Jeffrey Fecher	Superintendent	Administration
Dr. James Melchor	Assistant Superintendent	Administration
Dr. Toni Butz	Director of Teaching and Learning	Administration
Mr. Matthew Brenner	Coordinator of Teaching and Learning	Administration
Ms. Allison Renye	Supervisor of World Language	Administration
Ms. Maria Vaccaro	Supervisor of Elementary Special Education	McKinley
Dr. James Eten	Principal	Highland
Ms. Kimberly Stokes	Principal	Copper Beech
Mr. Daniel Oldham	Principal	McKinley
Dr. Kevin Osborne	Principal	Roslyn
Ms. Karima Boyd	Principal	Overlook
Dr. Lyndsay Morgan	Principal	Rydal
Dr. Damon Jordan	Principal	Willow Hill
Ms. Andrea Richards	Elementary Curriculum Specialist	Roslyn
Ms. Yolanda Morris	Elementary Curriculum Specialist	Copper Beech
Mr. James Lodewick	Supervisor of Teaching and Learning	Administration
Ms. Julia Krik	Supervisor of Special Education	Administration
Ms. Marie Levins	Supervisor of Special Education	Administration
Ms. Nancy Linville	Parent	Copper Beech
Ms. Miranda Voce	Elementary Teacher	Copper Beech
Mr. Peter Williams	Elementary Teacher	Copper Beech
Ms. Karen Fields	Elementary Teacher	Copper Beech
Ms. Catherine Manchester	Special Education Teacher	Copper Beech
Ms. Robin Watts	Reading Specialist	Copper Beech
Ms. Erin Kelly	Parent	Highland
Mrs. Jocelyn Pickford	Parent	HI/MS
Ms. Brooke Arnold	Elementary Teacher	Highland
Ms. Lauren Murphy	Elementary Teacher	Highland
Ms. Camille Flemming	Elementary Teacher	Highland
Ms. Meghan McKinnon	Special Education Teacher	Highland
Ms. Terry Crouthamel	Elementary Teacher	Highland
Ms. Christina Carr	Parent	McKinley
Ms. Jocelyn Keeney	Elementary Teacher	McKinley
Ms. Caitlin Scharle	Special Education Teacher	McKinley
Ms. Kaitlyn Hunt	Elementary Teacher	McKinley
Ms. Danielle Haltzman	Elementary Teacher	McKinley
Dr. Deaitra Bradley	Reading Specialist	McKinley
Ms. Lindsay Edwards	Parent	Overlook
Ms. Elise Melchor	Elementary Teacher	Overlook
Ms. Cassidy Adams	Elementary Teacher	Overlook
Ms. Kathleen Lucadamo	Special Education Teacher	Overlook
Ms. Amita Abraham	Reading Specialist	Overlook
Ms. Dara Whiteside	Reading Specialist	Overlook
Ms. Melissa Bunkin	Reading Specialist	Overlook
Ms. Melinda Spoerl	Reading Specialist	Roslyn
Ms. Derek Hughes	Reading Specialist	Roslyn
Ms. Amanda Wagner	Elementary Teacher	Roslyn
Ms. Marissa Fatovic	Elementary Teacher	Roslyn

Ms. Michael Staszkiw	Elementary Teacher	Roslyn
Ms. Susan Oman	Elementary Teacher	Roslyn
Ms. Mary Liz Doherty	Special Education Teacher	Roslyn
Ms. Susan Oman	Elementary Teacher	Roslyn
Ms. Rebecca Caldwell	Elementary Teacher	Rydal
Ms. Damaris Mennitt	Parent	Rydal
Ms. Kristen Keaser	Elementary Teacher	Rydal
Ms. Liz McGovern	Elementary Teacher	Rydal
Ms. Julie Kwon	ELD Teacher	Rydal
Ms. Christine Flite	Elementary Teacher	Willow Hill
Ms. Alyssa Devlin	Elementary Teacher	Willow Hill
Ms. Patricia Dougherty	Reading Specialist	Willow Hill
Ms. Sarah Zinar	Reading Specialist	Willow Hill
Ms. Erica Affleck	Literacy Coach	Abington Middle
Ms. Diana Gallagher	Special Education Teacher	Abington Middle
Ms. Laura Marunich	Special Education Teacher	McKinley
Ms. Alexandra Greim	Psychologist	McKinley