

**South Middleton School District  
Curriculum Committee Meeting (Virtual)  
Tuesday, January 26, 2021 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

***Attendance:***

Mel Shaver-Durham, Director of Curriculum  
Elizabeth Meikrantz, Board Member  
Bethanne Sellers, Board Member, Chair  
Mr. Joel Hain, BSHS Principal  
Jen Chamberlin  
Ally Chiavacci  
Mary Cornman  
Bryan Hellam  
Tracy Mersch  
Amy Santana  
Brittany Staab  
Chris Storrick

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

**II. High School Course Guide – presented by Mr. Hain**

Highlighted changes to the course guide

New English course offerings – presented by Mrs. Mersch

Reducing from 5 to 4 credits, English Keystone administered in Gr. 10

Applied English – more project based course

Elements of English – more traditional course

World Literature – expand beyond British Literature - was 12<sup>th</sup> grade course

Honors and AP courses continue as is

Creation of two electives – 0.5 credit each, both must be taken to earn 1 credit

Count as electives and also as English credit; concern over scheduling for graduation

Elective titles: Social Justice; Advanced Communications

Yearbook is no longer under the English department, still a course for credit

New Science offerings – Anatomy & Physiology, and Honor A & P, concern raised about our district's STEM focus with only 3 credits of science required for graduation

Reorder Social Studies offerings – American History 2 will be moved to freshman year.

However, last time students receive American History is grade 6.

**III. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (EDI) – presented by Dr. Amber Sessoms**

EDI will be linked on website, preview offered to show elements – links to PDE, Equity Hub, and terms/vocabulary, meet the team, and Equity Audit results for district

Team will focus on Academic Diversity for the remainder of the year

IV. **K-8 Math Textbook Recommendations**

K-5 Math program recommendation is Envision Math

Gr. 5 teachers – Mrs. Santana and Mr. Hellam shared EnVision Math textbook and online program.

Highlights: addresses higher level thinking, similar format to state testing, solve and share activities for activating lesson matches lesson planning, fully aligned with PA State Standards, excellent student engagement, and easy transition for remote learning.

Grades 6-8 are still selecting a product which will be brought forward for briefing at our March 2021 Curriculum Committee meeting

K-5 Envision product for 6 years licensing did come in less than budgeted

V. **Curriculum Reports – ELA Task Force Updates**

Brittany Staab reported on ELA Curriculum Writing. Continuing to work with consultant, Janet Hale. HS continues to “babycode”. Original date for ELA completion was March 2021, pre-pandemic.

Teachers were not pulled from classroom teaching as planned due to sub shortages and remote teaching responsibilities

Continue to update curriculum on progress and reassess as needed

Next meeting: March 29, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.