

South Middleton School District
Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 9, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

Committee Members: Bethanne Sellers (*Chair*), Eric Berry, Shannon Snyder,
Brad Group (*President, De Facto*)

Teachers: none in attendance for this meeting

Administrators: Dr. Kevin O'Donnell, *Assistant to the Superintendent*
Tricia Reed, *IFES Principal*

- I. Meeting commenced at 6:01 p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance

- II. Welcome Dr. O'Donnell, Assistant to the Superintendent
Introduction of Committee Members

- III. Old Business
Motion for committee approval of World Language curriculum maps to full board,
seconded and voted 3:3
Motion for committee approval of Epic and Generation Genius resources to full board,
seconded and voted 3:3
WL maps and subsequent resources will go to full board for approval on March 7, 2022
C & I Committee report shared with full board at February 22, 2022 meeting

- IV. New Business
 - a. Resource recommendations for committee to board approval:
 - i. Pebble Go and Pebble Go Next – Briefing form review, Mrs. Sellers shared information from K-5 librarians regarding usage and purpose of resource. Rice teachers use it often for animal research and famous Americans research, as well as for library media instruction. Iron Forge uses it to teach independent research skills and citations. Mrs. Snyder questioned how we are able to for parents to have some say (i.e. due to religious reasons, etc.) about content students may read on this resource? She would like to see a targeted approach outlined; Dr. O'Donnell will investigate.
Mr. Berry questioned if there is a better alternative that is more affordable or free, and what percent of the total resource we actually use. Recommended we check Duckster and World Book Online.
Dr. O'Donnell will follow up to find out additional information.
 - ii. Morpheme Magic – Briefing form review, Mrs. Reed explained this resource is used to supplement vocabulary and affix instruction across the 3-5 grade levels; no additional cost at this time.

iii. Common Sense Education - Briefing form review, this resource is free and used to teach digital citizenship to students. Mr. Berry remarked he was very happy to see this resource and instruction occur at this level as our students are exposed to the digital world very young.

b. Curriculum comments from Dr. O'Donnell

i. Dr. O'Donnell shared the following updates on curriculum:

Social Students maps are in progress

Math curriculum are written, currently in some alignment with the Envision resource

Science curriculum will be developing a plan for curriculum writing, with new teachers and positions onboarding they will examine how and when to write curriculum

ii. Requesting the committee to meet in July to review additional documents and update information.

iii. For the future, will ask we approve documents in draft form to allow supplemental resources and alignment, reflections and notations from teachers.

iv. At Rice, there are some professional development needs for teachers in the Science of Reading instruction, as well as time for curriculum and literacy refinement to identify gaps and application.

V. Public Comment – Citizens Participation

a. Lettie McDonough

Commented on Pebble Go resource, parent company is Capstone which promotes diversity and uses expert diverse consultants to review articles.

Commented on Jester, read a c. 1973 poem from Jester database on HS library webpage used for AP Capstone course, has been in contact with Dr. Hain regarding questionable and inappropriate content, and questioned AP Capstone course content and board approval.

b. Joy Bowman

Commented on book *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone as part of 9th grade academic English, questioned content, vocabulary, and author's activism compared to classic novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.

Commented on curriculum maps, could not locate resources within those maps.

Mentioned the resources page lists the same resources for English electives, World Literature and Social Justice. Also questioned the curriculum guide digital resource Facing History and Ourselves as to its use.

c. Julie White

Commented on book choice, reading aloud excerpt from *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone; requested review of curriculum and books from March-April 2018 approval for age appropriate literature

VI. Motion and Voting

- a. Mrs. Snyder motioned, seconded by Mr. Berry, for the committee to bring Morpheme Magic and Common Sense Education before the full board for approval.
Passes 3:3.
- b. Mrs. Snyder motioned, seconded by Mr. Berry, for the committee to table Pebble Go and Pebble Go Next renewal until two questions are researched by Dr. O' Donnell.
Passes 2:1

VII. Adjournment at 7:08 p.m.

VIII. Next quarterly meeting date:

Probable meeting July 2022, TBD

Monday, August 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.