



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

New Britain Board of Education Curriculum Committee Meeting

January 23, 2023 – 6:15 PM | New Britain Educational Administration Center

Call to Order and Opening

Mr. Anthony Kane, Curriculum Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:09 PM.

Board Members Present

Anthony Kane*, Joseph Listro*, Diana Reyes*, Gayle Sanders-Connolly, Tina Santana*

*Committee member

CSDNB Staff Present

Ms. Amy Anderson, Ms. Lara Bohlke, Ms. Kristina DeNegre, Ms. Aja Edwards, Dr. Anthony Gasper, Ms. Wanda Lickwar, Ms. Maryellen Manning, Mr. Jeff Prokop, Mr. Tyrone Richardson, Mr. Paul Salina, Dr. Nicole Sanders, Ms. Sandra Sanford, Mr. Mark Spalding, Ms. Ivelise Velazquez.

New Business

Review and Approve Minutes from the Curriculum Committee Meeting on November 21, 2022

There were no recommended changes to the minutes from the Curriculum Committee Meeting on October 17, 2022.

Ms. Santana motioned to approve minutes from the Curriculum Committee Meeting on November 21, 2022, seconded by Mr. Listro. Motion carried unanimously.

Accept Monthly EdAdvance Report

Presentation: Monthly EdAdvance Report

Presented by: Ms. Kristina DeNegre and Mr. Tyrone Richardson

Department of Academics Updates:

- Grades K-8 are taking iReady assessments - the iReady assessment window opened on 1/9 and closes 2/15.
- Kindergarten PA tasks will be taking place - 1/22/2023 - 2/15/2023
- Grades 3-8 are taking IAB's (round 2) which will be completed prior to our long weekend in February. IAB (Interim

Assessment Block) assessments for the first time since COVID. Interim assessments provide teachers with an additional tool that measures students' mastery of specific content and skills aligned to the Common Core. Teachers are using data from the IAB's to plan for targeted whole group and small group instruction.

- LAS Links testing has started and will conclude by March 3, 2023

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- Diloreto Elementary and Middle School is launching its annual lottery application process this month. All incoming elementary and middle school students are eligible to apply. Applications for the Diloreto lottery and the Dos en Uno dual language program will be available on Parent Portal until March 1, 2023

EdAdvance Update:

As we anticipate the ending of our work with EdAdvance, the work that has been targeted in our contract for the 22-23 school year is on track and is as follows:

- Learning Walks in Math, ELA and Social Studies at the middle schools (Pulaski and Slade)
- have been ongoing as well as targeted professional development in vocabulary strategies
- (cross content), and curriculum implementation
- EdAdvance ELA and Math Walkthroughs are also happening at Smalley Elementary School focusing on curriculum implementation and to observe the work of the EdAdvance coach
- who works alongside the coaches at Smalley.

Units 1-3 of the Social Studies curriculum have been completed for grades 6-8. Ed Advance is currently working on unit 4. Unit 2 was delivered in November for a December rollout:

- Grade 6 is studying Immigration and Justice
- Grade 7 is learning about Technology Advancements through the Ages
- Grade 8 is digging into how our nation was built.
- Library resource collections, aligned to the curriculum, have been created for each of the middle schools which include both print and nonprint materials and are personalized for each building's specific collection.

Abbe Waldron from EdAdvance has been:

- Coordinating and delivering five "Curriculum Bootcamp" sessions for administrators and coaches to build capacity for any future curriculum writing. Two of the five have already been delivered.
- Meeting with HS Music department curriculum writers to review the process and share feedback on map drafts for Freshman Band and Freshman Concert Choir
- Facilitating curriculum writing professional learning with K-5 PE coordinator and PE Teachers
- Meeting with HS English, reviewed next steps for edits of English 4 units
- Designing course templates for ECE Physics
- Meeting with the NBHS Principal and 6-12 Curriculum Coordinator to review progress on curriculum writing and plan next steps

EdAdvance Curriculum Implementation Learning Walks at the Middle Schools Glows

- Communication on how activities/ learning, access or build on prior knowledge
- Explicit integration of thematic/content vocabulary
- Reference to relevant anchor charts

Grows:

- Students doing more of the work of problem solving, computing, reading, writing, thinking and speaking
- Increase student-to-student discourse and minimized teacher talk time
- Skillful use of talk moves to promote students having effective conversations in a variety of formats

Between October and December of 2022 EdAdvance has done a total of 69 classroom visits through the lens of curriculum implementation learning walks.

Learning Walk Data from Middle School Walkthroughs (October through December) showed the following:

- 83% of teachers were identified as implementing exploration of big ideas of the unit
- 75% of teachers showed evidence that their learning targets aligned with their instruction and the unit
- 58% of classrooms showed evidence that students were practicing skills that aligned with priority standards within the units
- 42% of classrooms demonstrated student-centered instruction
- 42% of classrooms show evidence that teachers are instructing strategies and representations used to explore concepts within

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the unit being taught.

Next Steps:

- Teachers need to take what they are learning in NBU sessions and implement it with fidelity as evidenced through walkthrough data we will collect in the upcoming months
- Walkthroughs will continue at the Middle Schools and teachers will continue to receive feedback and support
- We continue to monitor student achievement outcomes through unit assessments, exit slips, iReady assessments and student work.
- Administrators will participate in all learning walks and NBU sessions

Presentation: Comprehensive Reading Program Adoption 2023-2024

Presented by: Ms. Ivelise Velazquez

Ms. Velazquez presented the new Comprehensive Reading Program to the Board and discussed the steps taken in making the decision to choose this new program. In November, Academic Office hosted teachers, the BOE, the DEI committee and the general public on the 4th floor to review sample materials. Over 100 teachers and family members submitted their preference from the 5 programs. A meeting of K-5 teachers and administrators ranked the top two programs using a rubric describing our literacy blocks. The top two programs submitted detailed proposal showing investments in year one to five.

Ms. Velasquez recommended based on input from multiple stakeholders, an analysis of the resources, and the cost of the program over 5 years, the Superintendent and Academic Department recommend purchase of American Reading Company in the amount of \$3,950,081 She also recommended the purchase of American Reading Company materials for DiLoreto’s Dual Language program for a cost of \$60,000 and the mCLASS assessment for \$184,446

Closing and Adjournment

Ms. Reyes motioned to adjourn at 7:16pm, seconded by Ms. Santana. Motion carried unanimously