

Curriculum Committee Agenda

April 6, 2023

8:00-9:00

Members Present:

Amy Larsen

Carla Anderson-Diekmann

Darren Sonenstahl

Suzy Bordeau

Bonnie Jude

Brenda Ritter

Gabra Lokken

Dan Ondich

Amee Wittbrodt

Matthew Schempp

Erin Winchell

Mandy Kasowicz

Cayla Rother

Carla Ahrenstroff

Kim Pike

BlueSky Charter School Vision:

BlueSky is defining education for the 21st century by creating an individualized, dynamic education for all students. We are committed to empowering our community by facilitating relevant learning, skills, hopes and relationships.

BlueSky Charter School Mission:

Bringing quality online education and diverse learners together.

Curriculum Committee Primary Objective: The primary objective of the Curriculum Development Committee is to review and recommend to the BlueSky Charter School Board of Directors on matters pertaining to the content of the academic program, course materials, and method of delivery. This includes, but is not limited to, the review and selection of curriculum and educational materials, review of all class syllabi, common course outlines and learning objectives for use in the program.

Curriculum Vision:

Through high quality curriculum and instructional practices BlueSky will do the following:

- 1. Continue to implement and maintain standards-based and data-driven practices*
- 2. Ensure MTSS resources are available to all staff and students*
- 3. Foster academic and social emotional skills among students*
- 4. Provide college and career readiness resources to support student learning and prepare students for post-high school opportunities*
- 5. Empower teachers to tailor instruction that equitably meets the needs of a diverse student population that is inclusive of all students*
- 6. Develop consistent course design and format that ensures content accessibility for all students; and*
- 7. Offer both flexible and structured curricular options for students*

FY23 Annual Focus Areas:

1. Establish a best practice expectation for the number of learning experiences a course should have along with a suggested length range for each learning experience to provide a consistent and uniform delivery of curriculum.
2. Provide training and support for implementing new instructional strategies to improve student engagement and academic outcomes for asynchronous learning experiences.
3. Establish and implement a common end of course student survey that is purposeful and used to improve student outcomes.
4. Review and update the Curriculum Committee vision to incorporate accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

STANDING BUSINESS:

1. [Course revision proposals](#) ([request form](#))
 - a. 6th ELA
 - i. Discussed where to draw the line between teacher expectations for lesson planning versus creating/preparing curriculum and instruction
 - ii. We do not have paid projects for modifying existing materials but do pay for new curriculum
 - iii. Will move forward with the project based on discussed limitations

NEW BUSINESS:

2. Perkins Update
 - a. Virtual Job Shadow - no longer covered by Perkins
 - i. Will no longer be covered by the consortium; plan would be to use MCIS 360 going forward
 - b. MCIS - no longer covered by Perkins but we'd like to continue paid through curriculum funds next year
 - c. ICEV curriculum was approved to replace existing Microsoft Office Applications; we're looking at providing Microsoft certification
 - d. We've had trouble getting curriculum and resources approved through the consortium
 - e. Program renewals are taking place next year; we have not renewed some programs because we weren't getting grant funds; we can't use the CTE title for unapproved courses

OLD BUSINESS:

3. Preliminary planning for next year
 - a. [MEIRS 2.0](#) - focus on data to drive early intervention
 - b. Inquiry-based learning (and other strategies to engage students asynchronously)
 - i. Is a research based instructional model
 - ii. Has been a struggle for extrinsically motivated students
 - iii. Is being widely utilized in science classes right now
 - iv. Students are less likely to utilize AI for cheating
 - v. Need to design learning experiences that have scaffolding built in

- vi. Discussed pulling Biology A results to see how effective it has been
 - vii. In general the focus is finding learning experiences that will engage students
 - viii. Feedback was that seeing examples (before/after) were really helpful; training needs to be practical applications of strategies
- c. ChatGPT/AI - could be a springboard into other training topics at the fall retreat; need to educate staff with the language to combat it
- d. Use of data (Renaissance Star); how do we compare this to student success on different activities, reading levels, etc.
- e. Basic accessibility issues - highlighted text, fonts, etc.
- f. Other
- 4. Special Education Update
 - a. We are moving forward with changes to essentials to be more focused on individual student needs through courses rather than one course that meets all needs
- 5. SEL and Next Steps
 - a. Moving from a general alignment to specific assessment and implementation at grade levels
 - i. 8th grade Responsible decision making
 - ii. 9th grade, 10th, etc.
- 6. ELA Curriculum Advisory Committee Update
- 7. [Number of Assignment Review](#) (carried over from last meeting)
 - a. Did not discuss, moved to the next meeting
- 8. Budget Review
 - a. Reviewed that a budget has been put together for 2023-24
 - b. The main challenge is that there are more projects than can be completed; Dan will be meeting with the instructional designers to coordinate a plan
- 9. Review of Annual Focus Areas
 - a. See above notes