



## Curriculum Committee Agenda

### **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*

### **FY24 Annual Focus Areas:**

1. MnMTSS Planning and preparation
2. Inquiry-based learning (and other strategies to engage students asynchronously)
3. Accounting for artificial intelligence in the classroom
4. Use of data to drive instruction and support (Renaissance Star)

5. Basic accessibility issues - highlighted text, fonts, etc.

Curriculum Committee Agenda: February 1, 2024 @ 8:00 am		
<b>Team Roles:</b> Note Taker: Hanna Coleman Time Keeper: Carla A-D Facilitator: Matthew Schempp - chair		<b>Members Present:</b> Amy Larsen, Ameer Wittbrodt, Alex Schulz, Bonnie Jude, Brenda Ritter, Carla Ahrenstorff, Carla A-D, Cathy Parker, Cayla Rother, Dan Ondich, Erin Winchell, Gabra Lokken, Hanna Coleman, Heidi Kelbel, Jaclyn Weber, Kim Pike, Mandy Kasowicz, Matthew Schempp, Suzy Bordeau
<b>Headlines: 10 minutes</b> (These are short announcements that do not need discussion. If discussion is needed, carry it down)	Social Studies Curriculum Advisory Update	Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project still needs to be on hold</li> <li>Judge approved except for 1 standard "...use ethnic and Indigenous studies methods and sources in order to understand the roots of contemporary systems of oppression and apply lessons from the past in order to eliminate historical and contemporary injustices"</li> <li>Suggestion made to reword standard</li> <li>No new "official" standards have been released</li> <li>Initially planned to have 7th and 9th grade ready for next year, will be delayed one year</li> <li>Moving forward with HMH for curriculum provider, teachers will still have control over what teaching             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial scheduled for 4th quarter to see how it will look in Moodle before making a final decision</li> <li>Looks like it will be an external link out to another site.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
		Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul> Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<b>Discussion/Problem Solving: 40 minutes</b> (These are items that need group discussion. The group should	<a href="#">Course revision proposals (request form)</a>	Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No new proposals</li> </ul> Actions:

decide what is the most important to solve and work in order to solve those problems)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
	New <a href="#">course syllabus requirements</a> - subcommittee recommendations (Brenda, Matthew, Jaclyn, Amee, Erin, Alex)	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed notes from sub-committee</li> <li>• Suggestions are added for what will need to be updated in the syllabus in the spring (see document for specifics)</li> <li>• Teachers will need training on how to add a list of standards and assignment list to the syllabus</li> <li>• Will use same syllabus for MP and GP - just make clear that group pace will use synchronous methods</li> </ul> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PD Committee will determine when teacher training will take place for needed updates</li> </ul>
	<a href="#">Ethnic Studies Guidance</a>	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start offering 2026-27</li> <li>• Can be incorporated into an existing core or elective course</li> <li>• Does not increase credits required for graduation</li> <li>• If we embed into an existing class, would that meet the standards/requirement? Yes!</li> <li>• We could consider adding these standards in any subject area - English, Art, etc</li> <li>• These are important standards, so should they be in an elective or required class? Committee feedback indicated a preference to embed into a required class</li> <li>• All the standards need to be in one class for this requirement; however, there are no specific standards yet</li> </ul> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add discussion to agenda for scope and sequence in English (Jaclyn is very interested in building into English 4 as she rewrites)</li> </ul>
	<a href="#">Career Academy</a> Updates	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request to add Cybersecurity to the Computer Science Academy</li> <li>• Request to add Culinary Arts II to the Hospitality &amp; Tourism Academy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ This makes the Culinary Arts and Hospitality academies very similar; suggestion could be to only have one of the two academies</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Discussed if we should combine Hospitality and Culinary Academies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Add Travel Scandinavia as required to Hospitality; Then</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>change electives to be either of the culinary arts</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved adding cybersecurity to computer science academy</li> <li>• Move Travel Scandinavia to a Required credit for Hospitality Academy; Move Culinary 1 and 2 as elective options for Hospitality Academy</li> </ul>
	<a href="#">Gifted &amp; Talented Program Plan</a>	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dan and Cathy recently updated and reviewed plan</li> <li>• What does enrichment for a gifted student look like at BlueSky? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Curriculum compacting: allowing students to skip certain parts of the curriculum to advance. In place of work that is 'skipped' student would replace with independent study, projects, advanced study (this is backed by research)</li> <li>◦ There are strict criteria for qualifying</li> </ul> </li> <li>• We need to find a better way to 'tag' students that have added this to their application; we need to first have a way to confirm this</li> <li>• We are asked at middle school to accelerate a student often in math</li> <li>• Students need to prove with test scores that they can handle the advanced coursework or have previously been placed in advanced courses</li> <li>• "My student is gifted, how will you support my student?" We review documentation from previous school, our gifted committee will review the information to discuss a plan and work with the family - plans may include any combination of acceleration, enrichment and PSEO</li> <li>• Can we refer students in the future? We can talk further about that as an option, currently pre-identification is based on test scores</li> <li>• As we develop new classes, both Tier 1 intervention and enrichment need to be considered for units</li> <li>• Committee is: admin, counselor, sw, advisor, teacher of that grade level</li> </ul> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff need future training on the updates that are made to the plan (i.e. curriculum compacting)</li> </ul>
	<a href="#">EL Program Plan</a>	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Huge work in progress; Changes at MDE were made so often that</li> </ul>

		<p>they could not keep up with the revisions as working on plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does this impact our teachers and programming? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ We will need to schedule training for the WIDA Can do philosophy; this will benefit all students</li> <li>◦ Clarified services based on ACCESS levels</li> <li>◦ The EL students do have outside challenges and some of the strategies may not apply, but wanted to include a wide variety and options</li> <li>◦ Was broken down by speaking and listening; reading and writing</li> <li>◦ Services provided by EL program are outlined, along with EA support available</li> <li>◦ Long term EL students would have an automatic intervention referral to help further identify needs</li> <li>◦ Our current process has not necessarily been triggering why some students are not making progress</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Many of the students and families do not want EL services</li> <li>• The new EL lead at MDE is working to incorporate trauma informed practices</li> <li>• Prioritizing speaking would be helpful in our setting, to help students better communicate with teachers and about content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Could a speech class be helpful with this need? This could be a future additional course</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>To-Do's: 5 minutes</b> (Quickly recap the to-do's. The notetaker will write down to-do's based on headlines and discussion items)		Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring course survey data to the March meeting</li> <li>• Dan will work with IT to update the Career Academies</li> <li>• English CAC will review options for embedding Ethnic Studies</li> </ul>