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: May 2, 2024 @ 8:00 am		
Team Roles: Note Taker: Hanna Coleman Time Keeper: Erin Winchell Facilitator: Dan Ondich		**Members Present: Amy Larsen, Amee 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 Kelbe**l, **Jaclyn Weber, Kim Pike, Mandy Kasowicz**, Matthew Schempp, **Suzy Bordeau**
Headlines: 10 minutes (These are short announcements that do not need discussion. If discussion is needed, carry it down)	Social Studies CAC Update	Notes: ● Trying demo with HMH, but it has not been going well ● Met with ABC Clio - database with extensive materials (not the most exciting, but could be helpful to fill gaps) ● Looking at social studies in Savvas, potential to be a positive option ● We are down to looking at 2 options to supplement curriculum ● Moving along and hopeful for development to start in the fall ● Next up with be math Actions: ● None
	[Teacher Manual](#) - Feedback indicated a desire to review The First Principles of Instruction	Notes: ● Reviewed a few weeks ago with teaching staff ● Teams indicated that they are not all that familiar with The First Principles of Instructions - desire to do more training (keep this in mind for next year) Actions: ● If you want to review and give feedback, can do so for next meet time
Discussion/Problem Solving: 40 minutes (These are items that need group discussion. The group should decide what is the most important to solve and work in order to solve those problems)	[Course revision proposals](#) ([request form](#))	Notes: ● Make Computer Applications a prerequisite for Cybersecurity ● Students need some base understanding of computer parts in order to be successful in cybersecurity ● Students are doing well in cybersecurity, but a few (2-3) needed to move to a different course as too hard

		● What about students that have a background from previous school or have a strong background from their own interest/abilities? ● Could say "strong recommendation" to take computer apps ● Students need to look ahead to see if they understand vocabulary ● Could a pre-test or self-assessment be given at the start of the class to figure out if students have the basic vocabulary needed? Actions: ● Use 'strong recommendation' to take Computer Apps first ● Create a pre-assessment to determine student readiness

	Perkins Consortium Membership	Notes:
		● Do not have to be a member of a consortium
		● 16 charter schools with approved programs/4 are members of a consortium (including BlueSky)
		● Can still meet SBE Guidance For Schools
		● There are concerns with how the consortium has been approving requests. Do we want to get into another consortium?
		● Potentially we are looking at a request for $15K next year
		● It may not be worth the money if we are only getting $3-5K
		● They have asked us to use the CTE label from classes that are not on the approved program list.
		● Is there a benefit for our school besides the money?
		● They tend to focus more on Dakota County
		● It doesn't seem to give us a marketing advantage with being in it
		● Trend is moving towards college in the classroom type lessons
		● Where are we allocating our time and resources? Is this the avenue that we want to invest in or are there other bigger picture options that may be more effective?
		   ○ AP classes, dual enrollment
		   ○ Parent survey ~ we have seen some interested in higher level (5-10 responses)
		   ○ Would we get enough enrollment and maintain that for AP
		   ○ Could we survey PSEO students to see if they would prefer AP or CIS rather than PSEO?
		   ○ Course options might open the door for interesting topics (i.e. intro to education)
		
		Actions:
		● We need some info on what the consortium can provide for funding to determine if it is worth it to maintain membership.

	BlueSky's Local Literacy Plan	Notes:
		   ● There will be an instructional training. The training is 120 hours (3 full work weeks) which will take place over the year
		   ● We need to select curriculum and intervention materials aligned to the science of reading
		   ● We may need to go back and re-work some of our curriculum (specifically reading elements) to meet expectations
		   ● There will be training that goes with the instructional tools that are approved by MDE
		   ● There will end up being a cutoff that is students fall under certain identifications for screening, they would need to have an intervention
		   ● Draft of this Literacy Plan will be sent to the school board for approval next
		   ● How will staff have time, motivation, and resources to complete the training?
		   ● Plan is due in June, going to May board meeting for approval
		
		Actions:
		   ● Committee was in favor of presenting the plan to the school board

		Notes: ●
To-Do's: 5 minutes (Quickly recap the to-do's. The notetaker will write down to-do's based on headlines and discussion items)		Actions: ● See the actions above