



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*

FY26 Annual Focus Areas:

1. Strengthen MnMTSS tier 1 implementation and fidelity
2. Leverage AI and technology to support high quality learning experiences

3. Explore and review best practices for facilitating engaging live class sessions

Curriculum Committee Agenda: March 5, 2026 @ 8:00 am		
Team Roles: Note Taker: Dan Time Keeper: Cayla Facilitator: Heidi		Members Present: Amy Larsen, Ameer Wittbrodt, Brenda Ritter, Carla Ahrenstorff, Carla A-D, Cathy Parker, Cayla Rother, Dan Ondich, Erin Winchell, Heidi Kelbel, Mandy Kasowicz, Sam Savoie, Matthew Schempp, Laura Welciek, Kim Pike, Suzy Bordeau, Benoit Kabwar, Cayla Rother
Updates: 10 minutes	FY27 Budget	Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk with your teams about curriculum needs • Any individual subscriptions that want to be continued need to be reported back so they are included in the budget • Currently we are planning to budget \$3,000 for discretionary curriculum Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to your teams and report to your lead or Dan
	Course Survey Updates	Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change question “Would you recommend this course to other students?” answer choices to a) Yes b) No c) Required Course • Remove open ended question “Why would or wouldn’t you recommend the course?” • Remove open ended question “Were there any units or lessons you wish had been covered more or explained better? Which ones?” • Change open ended question “Please share any additional comments or feedback you have about the course.” to: “Is there anything else you would like us to know about this course?” with a bulleted description of “Examples: specific problems in a lesson or unit, topics that need more coverage, favorite activities, etc”

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Example for review: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1-r1Rj4DT14EyDpzsOfJbNM6MQXvt7Rgc-q7zPwTrSGk/preview <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Change required to: require, but still recommend or not recommend
<p>Discussion/Problem Solving: 40 minutes</p> <p>(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)</p>	<p>Course revision proposals (request form)</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No new proposals <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None
	<p>Ojibwe Course/Program</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$40/hr (172 hours development) = \$6,880 development ● Estimated to be about the same to teach the course if hired as the teacher ● Can use American Indian Education Funds ● Would go through an official hiring process ● Need to decide if we market it to other schools - supplemental/tuition? ● Could consider S2 for 2026-27 year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MDE has been in transition so there hasn't been clear guidance on when or how to implement but ideally we should offer something as soon as possible ● A concern is that we have limited instructional design support due to other course priorities ● Another concern is that this is about 1/3 more expensive than we would pay for in house staff to do similar curriculum work ● Statute requires we have programming, doesn't necessarily need to be a course; but there has been very limited guidance on what we need ● Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have we surveyed students to see if they want to take the course? ○ Is this offered to Middle and High school? If it is for all levels, is the development of this course appropriate?

- What are our other options?
 - Language programs (Duolingo, Rosetta Stone, other)
 - Ojibwe is a higher level language so these programs may not be a great option
 - How do we give credit for this?
 - How would the cultural piece be addressed? (Maybe someone could come in for this side.)
- Do we need an option every year, or just once in their MS/HS career?
- Other schools also have a need for this programming, so we could potentially help meet that need for other schools.
- Would this class meet the needs of the entry level students as well as those who are already engaged with their culture and language already?
- What is the scope/sequence of this course? Can we write stipulations into the contract? How are we providing oversight and planning approval from our side of things?
- How could we incorporate traditional cultural learning practices into this course?
- Do we post the job and do the interview process? If so, we need to have clear expectations.
 - Dan did reach out to contacts to find these people already with some of the most prominent educators that are available but we could cast a larger net.
- Do we want to be a front runner and go all in? Or do we hold back and keep it on a smaller scale?
 - If we go all in, we will likely need to develop more than one year.
- Do we need Dakota and Ojibwe based on our population?
- Big question - do we just want to meet the requirement or go all out to provide a program that is a model for the state?

Actions:

- Survey our students to see what they would like
- Get more clarity on requirements from MDE - see questions above
- Have Jen/April inquire at the conference they are attending

	<p>Math Curriculum - Approval of combined Amplify and MathXL adoption</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just found out that MathXL is being sunset; no timeline other than it sounds like it will go away in about a year; Dan is waiting to get more information • Amplify will not meet all of our need - many activities are designed for in person; does fit the inquiry/conceptual aspects of the new math standards but we need an additional resource for the procedural/practice elements • Amplify is about \$30/student • We have already adopted Amplify for middle school; the HS curriculum is new (beta development) • MyLab Math is the most similar alternative; is much more expensive than MathXL but might be able to do a long-term agreement <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation is to move forward with Amplify but need to work with the Math Department before making a final decision or extended year contract
	<p>Writer's Workshop/6th Grade Exploratory Grades</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have been grading as a P/F course • All other exploratory 6th grade courses are now letter grade (except WIN) • Should we change to be consistent? <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to move forward with letter grades so all 6th grade courses have a letter grade except WIN • Brenda will make note to help facilitate
<p>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)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See actions above