



Curriculum Committee Agenda

October 15, 2018

9:00-10:00

Members Present:

Amy Larsen	Renee' Parcheta
Carla Anderson-Diekmann	Dan Ondich
Darren Sonenstahl	Jim Weiberg
Heather Novak	Matthew Schempp
Karen Kraco	Alisa Snyder
Bonnie Jude	Leasa Kulm
Brenda Ritter	

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. implement standards-based and data-driven practices*
- 2. embed RTI over the next three to five years*
- 3. foster academic and testing skills among students*
- 4. provide College and Career Readiness resources to support student success and learning to ensure opportunities post high school*
- 5. empower teachers to tailor instruction that meets the needs of individual students*
- 6. develop consistent course design and format that ensures content accessibility for all students; and*
- 7. establish a schedule that offers both flexible and structured options for students*

FY19 Annual Focus Areas:

1. College & Career Readiness

- a. Career academies
- b. Partnerships
- c. Special education transitions programming
- 2. Core Competencies
 - a. Continue with sub-committee
- 3. Instruction Strategies
 - a. Tier 1 instruction
 - b. First Principles of Instruction
 - c. Training must apply to BlueSky systems and be practical (practice vs. theory)

STANDING BUSINESS:

- 1. [Course revision proposals \(request form\)](#)
 - a. No new proposals

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2. Suggestion for MLA instruction/requirements in all classes
 - a. Several departments have been discussing more common/universal instruction assignments
 - b. Staff Development and Training shell already has MLA Writing Guidelines/quiz and materials for incorporating library resources
 - c. MLA is what we use in all English Language Arts classes
 - d. This standardizes what/how students submit assignments
 - e. Recommendation would be to include a MLA formatting grading criteria for written projects
 - f. ELA standards only require use of a style guide; doesn't specify MLA or APA
 - g. Teacher would decide if they would use a graded quiz; ultimate goal is to hold students accountable to using MLA as part of the assignment's grading
 - h. English department has already created a rubric
 - i. Training would need to be provided to teachers to ensure it's being used consistently
 - j. It was mentioned that many students are already transferring their learning to other subject areas so it would be reinforcing
 - k. Questions were raised as to what situations would require MLA and if there would be consequences for staff that don't follow
 - i. Discussed that it would be for larger written assignments/projects
 - ii. Depending on what the committee decides there could be repercussions for staff that don't follow expectation
 - l. Discussed that being more consistent would also help students
 - i. Could make templates
 - ii. Students would only need to learn one set of guidelines
 - m. Goal would be that any writing assignment over a page in length would need to incorporate MLA in the assignment as a graded element; teachers would need to provide MLA guidelines to students
 - n. No opposition to moving forward
 - o. Matt will move forward with English department and Staff Development Committee in getting training scheduled

3. [Teaching and Learning Toolkit Review](#)
 - a. High impact areas include feedback, mastery learning, metacognition/self-regulation, peer tutoring, reading comprehension, and collaborative learning
 - i. Discussed that we are already doing some of these
 - ii. Mastery learning ties in with competencies
 - iii. Metacognition/self-regulation could be a good fit with our compassionate school initiative
 - b. Which, if any of these would we want to consider providing training on and utilizing?
 - c. Other areas to look at are the low impact strategies
 - d. Will table this and discuss again during December meeting; committee will review and look into strategies more before the next meeting

OLD BUSINESS:

3. Math Curriculum Development Team
 - a. Considering changing the development timeline for Non-Linear Algebra and Algebra/Statistics 2
 - b. Dan will schedule a meeting soon
4. Special Education Update
 - a. English Concepts Phase 1 Update
 - i. Need approval for phase 2
 - ii. Student would need to meet 2 of the 5 criteria to be placed in the course
 1. Discussed combining like areas as concern too many students would qualify
 2. Decided to leave at 5
 - iii. Approved to move forward to phase 2
 - iv. Encouraged to work with Brenda to get first unit setup as template
5. Competency-Based Practices Update (sub-committee)
 - a. Committee requested additional reporting for teachers which is now complete
 - b. Need to schedule training
 - c. Alignment is the goal of this phase
6. Intervention/Progress Monitoring Tool
 - a. Renaissance Star
 - i. Discussed doing an in-dept pilot for English and math to see if it would be a viable option to replace NWEA MAP
 - ii. Will discuss more during the next Curriculum Committee meeting
7. Budget Review
 - a. Budget is on track