

MINUTES: Meeting of the Monona Grove School District, Curriculum Committee, held on Thursday, September 20, 2007, in the Nichols School, District Office Board Room, Starting at 7:20 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Bultman, Mike DuPlayee, Phil McDade

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABSENT: Sue Carr, Tim O'Connor

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Gary Schumacher, Bill Breisch

I. Opening of Meeting – Kathy Bultman

II. Declaration of Public Notice – Acknowledged

III. Approval of the Minutes of the August 15, 2007, Curriculum Committee Meeting

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the minutes of the August 15, 2007, Curriculum Committee meeting. Phil McDade seconded and the motion carried.

IV. Kathy Bultman moved that Public Appearances be moved on the agenda to be heard after agenda Item VI. Mike DuPlayee seconded and the motion carried.

V. Discussion and Possible Approval of Monona Grove High School Spanish Club Trip to Mexico, June 2008 – Kiley Bohlen & Sonja Boehm, Spanish Teachers, Monona Grove High School

Kiley Boehn and Sonja Boehm presented a proposal to the Committee regarding a Spanish Club trip to Mexico in June 2008. The trip would be offered to sophomores, juniors, and seniors who have completed Spanish III or higher by the time of the trip and active members in the Spanish Club.

Phil McDade moved that the Committee recommend to the Board of Education approval of the Monona Grove High School Spanish Club trip to Mexico in June 2008. Mike DuPlayee seconded and the motion carried.

VI. Update on Literacy Initiatives

A. PreK-12 Literacy Committee

Deb Lyons, reading specialist at Taylor Prairie School, presented an update on the two-year work of the PreK-12 Literacy Committee. She reviewed the Committee's emphasis on quality and scientifically based research focusing on major components of teaching reading. She also reviewed the "Critical Elements Rating Tools" that PreK-6th grade staff developed based on scientifically based reading research and then have used to begin to evaluate new core instructional reading materials.

B. ACT's EPAS and College Readiness Standards in Reading, English, and Writing

Bill Breisch shared information provided by Monona Grove High School English teacher Renee Radlinger regarding a group of English teachers (grades 6-12) who met this past summer and discussed three major areas of language arts curriculum: grammar, writing and research. With this information they developed the beginnings of an initial course alignment with ACT's College Readiness English Standards. He further reported all Monona Grove High School

students and staff are using the writers' handbook, *Writer's Inc.* Information regarding WKCE-CRT assessments and DPI's rating of "Proficient" or "Advanced" was also reported. Committee members stressed the need to review the amount of time that students are spending in reading instruction at the middle school level (in particular, starting at 6th grade) if the students are struggling in reading versus their involvement in courses outside their core academic courses.

IV. Public Appearances

Susan Manning, speaking as a member of the Committee, thanked Bill Breisch, Deb Lyons, and the Literacy Committee for all the work they have done serving on this Committee.

VII. Establish Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Curriculum Committee will be Wednesday, October 17, 2007, 7:15 P.M., at Cottage Grove School in the Distance Learning Center.

VIII. Adjournment

Kathy Bultman moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mike DuPlayee seconded and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.