Special Darien Board of Education

Curriculum Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 13, 2022

8:30 a.m.

Darien Public Schools' Administrative Offices

35 Leroy Avenue

Board of Education Meeting Room

AGENDA

- 1. Art Department Update
- 2. Selection of Instructional Materials
- 3. Public Comment
- 4. Adjournment

AA:nv

* * The Board of Education meeting will be available to the public in person and via Zoom. Wearing of masks is optional and seating is limited by room capacity. Doors open at 8:15 a.m. for the 8:30 a.m. meeting.

Those members of the community wishing to participate in public comment may join the meeting via Zoom:

https://darienps.zoom.us/j/96756697534

Those members of the community wishing to view only, should do so through the Darien Youtube link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUnnvyKBFbFrTWQRuoB6OZA

In order to reduce audio interference, members of the community are requested not to simultaneously view by Youtube while participating on Zoom.

Darien Public Schools



Memorandum

To: Darien Board of Education Curriculum Committee CC: Alan Addley, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

From: Christopher Tranberg, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

RE: BOE Curriculum Committee

Date: October 13, 2022

Continuing with departmental updates, the curriculum committee will begin with an overview from the art department. The presentation will include programmatic highlights, student recognitions, curriculum update status and samples of student work. Jaclyn Sammis, K-12 Art Department Coordinator will join the meeting to present this overview.

The second agenda item reviews District practices related to the selection of instructional materials. This presentation includes an overview of curriculum development and looks closely at the selection of instructional materials in literacy and social studies. Francis Janosco (English Department Chair), Keith Keeler (Social Studies Department Chair) and Julie Droller (Director of Elementary Education) will join the discussion to discuss processes and resources for students and teachers.

The November meeting of the Curriculum Committee will focus on math acceleration and new course proposals.



Art Curriculum Update

October 13, 2022



2022 CT Congressional Art Award Winner

Sarah Jackson's
painting was selected
as part of the 2022
National Winners
Exhibition at the US
Congress Hall of
Representatives,
Washington DC

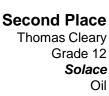




2022 iCreate @ Bruce Museum Winners



First Place
Charlotte Corcoran
Grade 11
Escaping the Pandemic
Mix media







Where we are:

- We offer an emotionally safe, stimulating learning environment based on the fine arts studio model where students can experience the joy of individual creativity, experiment with media, techniques, and processes, and develop a more in-depth understanding of the arts.
- National Core Art Standards: Creating, Presenting, Responding, and Connecting
- Artistic process of creative thinking: brainstorm, collaborate with peers,
 plan and experiment, make it, and reflect
- Early on in the process of documenting current curriculum in new platform
 - PD days in January and February will spend time with new platform



Instructional Time:

Elem:

Students have art 1x per rotation with additional art periods (30 rotations, and 9 "extra" periods

MMS:

- 6th grade, 1x per week all year
- > 7th and 8th grade, 1 quarter, approx 36 periods



SEL in the Art Room

- K-5 students experimented with line and shapes while blind contour line drawing.
 - Focus on: letting things happen, embracing the imperfections, there isn't a "right" answer, Art isn't permanent, enjoyment of drawing without seeing



Kindergarten: blind contour line drawing on dry erase boards



SEL in the Art Room

- Seventh grade sketches using Ruler: Students are given an object to sketch and they have to incorporate their current feeling on the mood meter.
 - Measure where each student is daily
 - How their feelings change depending on day of week/ time of art
 - How their feelings could impact their interaction with peers in the studio.

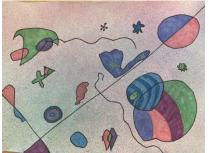
Enraged	Furious	Frustrated	Shocked	M	Surprised	Upbeat	Motivated	Ecstatic
Livid	Frightened	Nervous	Restless	0	Hyper	Cheerful	Inspired	Elated
Fuming	Apprehensive	Worried	Annoyed	0	Energized	Lively	Optimistic	Thrilled
Repulsed	Troubled	Uneasy	Peeved	D	Pleasant	Joyful	Proud	Blissful
M	0	0	D	M	E	T	E	R
Disgusted	Disappointed	Glum	Ashamed	E	Blessed	At Ease	Content	Fulfilled
Mortified	Alienated	Мореу	Apathetic	T	Humble	Secure	Chill	Grateful
Embarrassed	Excluded	Timid	Drained	E	Calm	Satisfied	Relaxed	Carefree
Alone	Down	Bored	Tired	R	Relieved	Restful	Tranquil	Serene



Highlights from Elem:

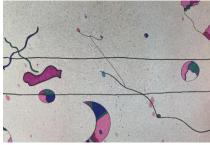
Students studied artist
 Joan Miro (Hispanic
 Heritage Month) and
 experimented with art in
 his style by looking at
 shapes, line, and
 composition.











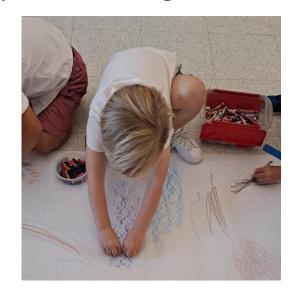


Highlights from Elem (cont.):

Kindergarten students experiment with mark making and lines using crayons and markers on individual pieces, and large





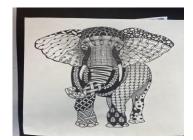




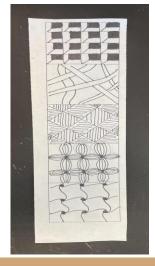
Highlights from MMS:

- Sixth Grade Zentangles
 - Line, Pattern, and Value
 - What is a symbol?
 - Inside vs outside design





- Community Class Zentangle
 - Student must create their own original design to be added to the sixth grade zentangle





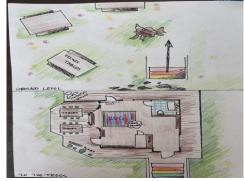


Highlights from MMS (cont.):

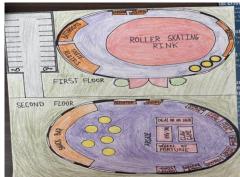
Architectural Drawing:

- Create a community space for Darien
 - How do people get there?
 - Bike rack if riding bike
 - Handicap accessible
 - Age group (who uses it?)
 range of ages
 - Where in town is it located and why





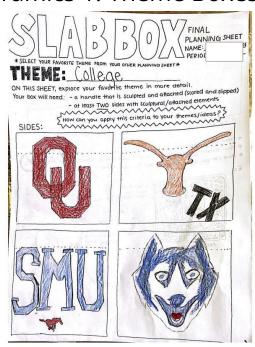






Highlights from DHS

Ceramics 1: Theme Boxes









Highlights from DHS

Drawing and Painting 1:









Selection of Instructional Materials

BOE Curriculum Committee October 13, 2022



Julie Droller Francis Janosco Keith Keeler Christopher Tranberg, Ph.D.

Presentation Overview

O1. District Processes 03. Elementary Education



02. Instructional Resources

04. Resources for Teacher

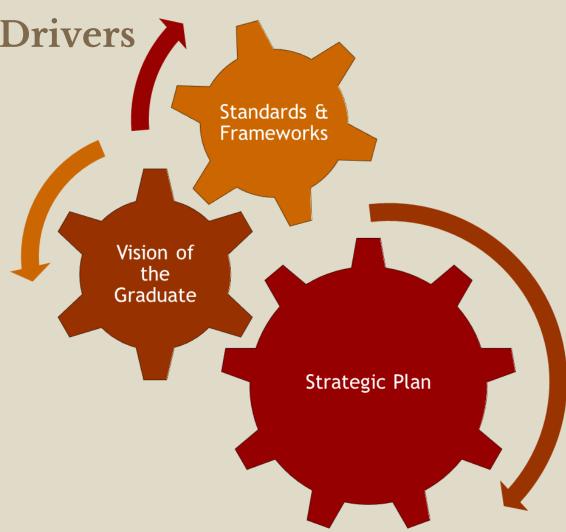
District Curriculum Drivers

Mission

Inspiring a love of learning in all students so they develop as critical thinkers and innovative creators who contribute to the world with integrity and purpose beyond themselves

Vision

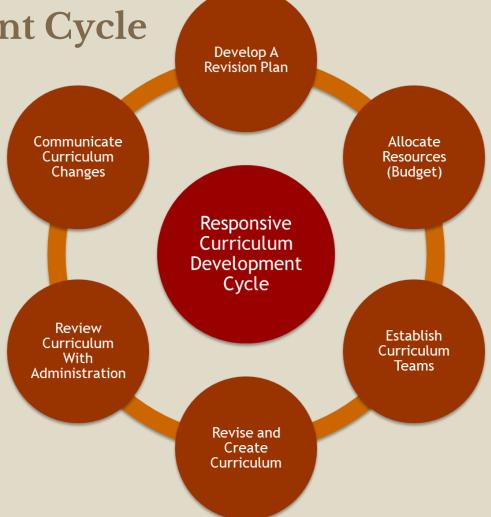
Preparing all students today to thrive in a changing world tomorrow



Curriculum Development Cycle

<u>High-Quality Curriculum Attributes</u>

- Valid
- Reliable
- Adaptable / Responsive
- Aligned
- Data Driven

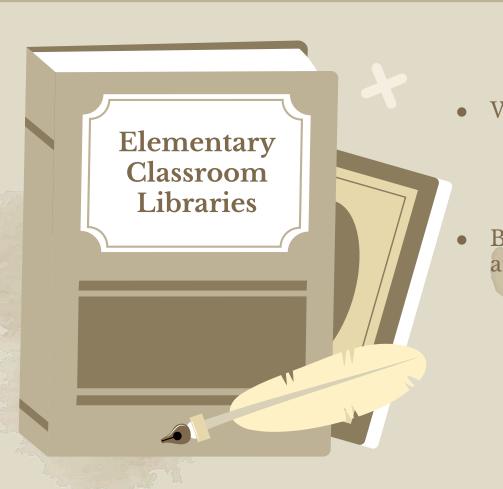


Instructional Resources



Written District curricula represent the standards, knowledge and skills, and essential understandings necessary to meet proficiency. Curricula are delivered through sequential learning plans. Student success is assessed (measured and evaluated) through a series of assessments designed for specific grade levels or content areas.

Curriculum is brought to life through teaching that integrates a variety of **instructional resources**. Instructional resources are those materials selected to engage learners and support the delivery of written curriculum with fidelity. Some resources are predetermined (textbooks, software, rubrics) and others selected by teachers (mentor texts, current research articles, media related to current events).



- Whole class read-alouds:
 - TCRWP Reading and Writing Units of Study
 - SEL & content area texts
- Books for Independent, Partner and Book Club reading
 - TC Classroom Library sets
 - Award-winning texts
 - Recommendations from trusted sources

New Curricula: 5th Grade Reading Unit

- Teachers identified need for a mid-year social issues book club unit.
- Established plan for collaborative curriculum development led by TC staff developer.
- Determined goals: reading standards and Vision of the Graduate learner outcomes.
- Curriculum development embedded with professional learning in instructional methods.
- Shared read-aloud text to anchor the unit.
- Selected curated texts to appeal to a variety of interests and abilities.



Comprised of:

- Books handed down by MMS English teachers
- Books ("shelves") curated by TCRWP
- Genre requests from grade-level groups
- Updates reflective of best sellers, student requests, Newbery Medal winners

Book Club Units

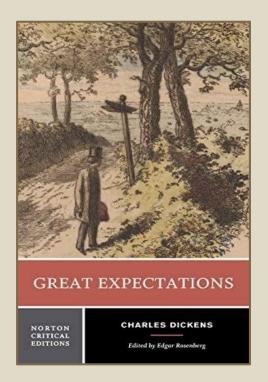


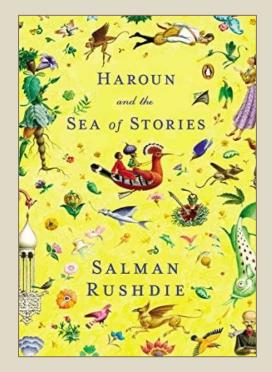
- At MMS, most book club units feature selections recommended by TCRWP
- Grade-level teams do sometimes request new titles that fit with the book club genres
- When making book ordering decisions, the emphasis is on how a new title extends the studied genre
- Selections have been replaced when inflammatory material have outweighed merit

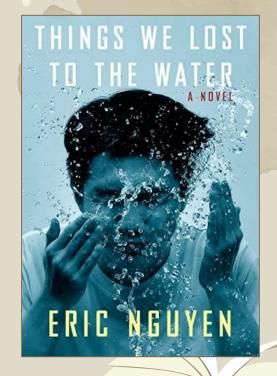
Whole Class Novels

- At DHS, always seeking a balance between the classic and the contemporary
- New book requests requires a conversation among all grade-level teachers, a rationale, and an identification of any texts being replaced
- When making decisions, the emphasis is on the literary and narrative elements a new book brings to a course
- Requests have been denied when inflammatory elements outweighed literary merits

Recent Examples / DHS English







Textbook Selection

1. Identify a need

Outdated Text Standards or Framework Change New Scholarship in the Field

3. Review Samples

Is the content aligned? Is the text rigorous and complex? Are supplemental resources useful?

2. Gather Samples

Solicit Publishers
Request Widely
Published/Distributed
Survey DRG Colleagues
Attend Professional Conferences



Student Sources



When students seek their own sources:

This responsibility is gradually turned over to them (6-12)

Younger students have more curated material

Depends on the nature of the assignment



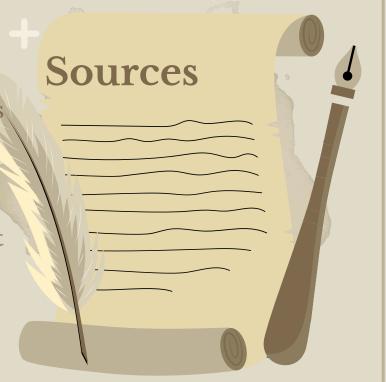


Students are taught to evaluate sources:

Is the source current?
Is the source reliable?
Who is the author?
What is the purpose of the piece?
What is the perspective?

PRIMARY SOURCES

- Basis for History classes
- Promote understanding of perspectives
- Contain some degree of bias that is named and explored
- Vetted for age appropriateness, content relevance, and readability
- Teach students to think independently and to be critical consumers of information



Resources for Teachers

Library Databases	District Resources	Web Resources	National Awards	Current Events
Gale in Context: Opposing Viewpoints Gale in Context World History Proquest Historical Newspapers Statista (new)	Encyclopedia Britannica Launchpacks Newsela Kids Discover Junior Scholastic / NY Times Upfront	Allsides.com Commonsense media.org National Archives History Sourcebooks	Winners and Finalists (National Book Award, Pulitzer Prize, PEN/Faulkner Prize)	News (Digital) News (Written) Podcasts Vlogs



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