

**Elementary Language Arts Curriculum Committee**  
**Anchorage Education Center - Orange Room**  
4:30 - 6:00 PM - November 11, 2008

Our purpose as leaders in the language arts curriculum is to provide leadership and support in our schools for the Anchorage School District goals.

**Call to Order**

- Introductions
- Agenda Approval
- Minutes Approval— April 22, 2008

**Standing Curriculum Committee: ASD Policy**

- Member Responsibilities and Commitments

**Reports (1-2 minutes)**

**Literacy Specialists:**

**Title I Coaches:**

**LA Coordinator: Update For SBAR and Plans for '08-'09**

**New Business:**

**4 Platoon Partners: Authentic Purposes for Writing  
(Fort Richardson, AK)**

**Ongoing Business:**

**4 Writing Instruction Training Needs**

- Survey Monkey
- Developing the questions

**4 Ad Hoc Committee**

- Writing Instruction Alignment
- Guide Development
- Nominations

**For the good of the order:**

**Motion to Adjourn**

In The Folder

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Our purpose as leaders in the language arts curriculum is to provide leadership and support in our schools for the Anchorage School District goals.

**Members Present:**

Janice Summers	Likka McCauley
Cindy Forsyth	Archie Green
Melanie Bullock	Dona Helmer
Mary Ann Jalbert	Maureen Retzel
Jan Maki	LaVon Bridges
Ann McLain	Glenn Nielsen
Jane Lister	Carissa Cote
Kelly Schnese	Colleen Brown
Ella Brown	Trisha Flanigan
Diane Teekell-Opitz	Katherine Miller

**Call to Order**

- **Introductions**
- **Agenda Approval** - no objections, approved
- **Minutes Approval** - April 22, 2008

**Standing Curriculum Committee: ASD Policy**

• **Member Responsibilities and Commitments**

Attendees looked over the board policy. Mardell emphasized the role of Enid as overseeing all curriculum committee meetings, as well as the responsibilities of committee members, namely recommending changes in curriculum design to maintain curriculum in the highest degree in our district. This committee will be the representative broader scope to bring suggestions, etc. to the Ad Hoc committee. Mardell also encouraged each member "To reach out and "tap" or suggest, someone new in the district to become involved in the committee."

• **Reports (1-2 minutes)**

**Literacy Specialists:** Ann McLain reported that the specialists are supporting Jody Smith's absence. Each specialist is spending one day a week on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year HM schools. Classes are being offered in HM support. Also, HM review training by grade levels in schools that are not covered by Title

**Title I Coaches:** Program review training on going. The shift is response to instruction intervention as well as formative assessment, Dibels

assessment, AIMS Web schools (reading, math, spelling, written expression), Reading Mastery.

**ASD Administrator:** Glenn Nielsen noted that writing instruction emphasis is one of the goals for Elementary Education this year.

**LA Coordinator: Update For SBAR and Plans for '08-'09**

We are currently "200 strong" in the SBAR pilot, which includes reading/writing, math, science and SEL. There will be a Friday video conference with Dr. Marzano - music, pe, social studies - 9:00-11:00 at Highland Tech. Everyone is welcome to join the group.

Concern on the technology piece of SBAR reporting - limited to 20 marking places.

**New Business:**

**4 Platoon Partners: Authentic Purposes for Writing (Fort Richardson, AK)** Mardell encouraged everyone to consider getting involved in this program, or pass information along to a classroom or school. Letters, cards, care packages are encouraged. Suggested items include: lip balm, antiseptic, air freshners, coffee singles, Crystal Light.

Mardell needs the commitments by Nov. 21.

**Ongoing Business:**

There is currently no comprehensive plan to address writing instruction. It was suggested that writing instruction training needs to be by school. Kristine Stout will be happy to help with the data processing and the survey information.

**4 Writing Instruction Training Needs**

- **Survey Monkey**
- **Developing the questions -**

Glenn encouraged the involvement of school administrators, so involved that it becomes "organic". Each administrator will then be able to share the information with their respective staff.

Some of the suggested questions/concerns :

- What programs are currently being used
- What assessments are used
- Are there "home grown" assessments being used
- What will training and support look like
- Is it possible to purchase materials
- Do we already have something in district

Mardell divided the group into smaller discussion groups. Each group brainstormed a list of questions to be considered for the Survey Monkey to be sent to all teachers.

#### **4 Ad Hoc Committee**

- **Writing Instruction Alignment**
- **Guide Development**
- **Nominations** - each member signed a commitment for the Ad Hoc Writing Committee , or nominated someone to participate

#### **For the good of the order:**

First meeting of the WIM (Writing Instruction Mapping Ad Hoc Committee) will be Nov. 25, with a second meeting on Dec. 1.

**Motion to Adjourn** - Ann McLain made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Jan Maki. Motion carried , meeting was adjourned at 6:05.