

Middle School Language Arts Curriculum Committee

April 10, 2007

Location: ASD ED Center- Orange Room

3:45 PM- 5:15 PM

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

1. Increasing achievement for all students
2. Supporting effective learning environments
3. Accomplishing increased public accountability
4. Establishing diversity in the workforce

Refreshments, Materials Preview, and Catching up With Colleagues

Call to Order

Introductions

Agenda and Minutes (3/13/07) Approval

Reports: (1-2 minutes)

- Michael Perkins and/or Michelle Johansen, Middle School Administration Reps
- Amy Goodman, MS Literacy Support

Continuing Business

- ▶ Gates - MacGinitie Reading Tests and the Future... a discussion and motion
- ▶ Status Report: Book Orders and Purchasing Procedures
- ▶

New Business

- ▶ **Middle School Program of Studies**

Points to consider as you investigate the LA electives and complete the survey grid...

1. Is there duplication among courses?

2. What curriculum exists to support each course?

3. Are all courses still viable?

4. Has each course been aligned with mid-level, LA - GLEs?

5. Which courses need to remain and which courses should be weeded?

6. Which courses should be developed and added?

- ▶ ASD Teacher Academy... and Curriculum Camp for Mid-Levels
- ▶ Input Opportunity

In the Folder

- ▶ Minutes (March 13)
- ▶ Core Curriculum Selections

Announcements... Next meeting Sept. 11, 2007

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Present	School/Program
Bill Bajczk	Clark/Begich
Maureen Wms-Cornelius	Clark
Laura Fitzgerald	Central
Art LaRue	Clark
Sharon Pinkney	Clark
Judy Onslow	Girdwood
Diana Daniels	Goldenview
Michelle Foss	Gruening
Marcie Indahl	Hanshaw
Stacy Miller	Mears
May Smith	Mirror Lake
Keri Barter	Romig
Janene Schoenborn	Wendler
Sherry Girard	FTL
Brenda Fenton	Gifted ED
Amy Goodman	Literacy Support
Michelle Johannsen	Polaris

Excused

Linda Richardson
Bob Vandergriff

Special ED
Steller

Absent

Beth Hartley

ESL

Call to Order 3:50 PM

Introductions

Agenda and Minutes (3/13/07) Approval: Agenda approved as written.
Minutes approved with corrections. Moved by May Smith, seconded by Bill Bajczyk

Continuing Business

- **Gates - MacGinitie Reading Tests and the Future...** a discussion and motion
Committee members heard a summary of the last several MSLACC discussions regarding the Gates-MacGinite reading test. Each committee member was invited to report the survey results from respective schools. The question was raised as to whether we should continue to use the Gates test for new-to-state students.

Keri Barter, Romig, moved that we eliminate the Gates-MacGinite test as a district required test and use it only as a screening tool for new-to-state students. Seconded by Art LaRue, Clark.

The discussion that followed included the need to detail a plan for the testing materials that are currently in buildings. The Gates post test is **NOT** to be given this spring.

Motion passed unanimously.

The committee will be updated as further decisions are made.

► **Status Report: Book Orders and Purchasing Procedures**

Please fax any corrections and updates to Tony Freeman at the Language Arts office - 742-4580.

► **Favor to Mankind:**

Begich Middle School needs supplementary materials as noted in the curriculum guides. Please do a complete assessment of the bookroom at your building and see what kinds of supplementary materials are not being used. Consult your department and your principal before making arrangements to send no-longer-used materials to Begich. E-mail titles and numbers to Mardell and Amy by April 24, 2007.

New Business

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All schools were asked to identify which LA electives are currently being offered at their schools. This task and related discussion will continue.

► **ASD Teacher Academy... and Curriculum Camp for Mid-Levels**

Curriculum camp – 7th grade , June 18 and 20

3:30 to 5:30 PM

8th grade, June 19 and 20

3:30 to 5:30 PM

Each department is asked to invite one person per grade level to participate in curriculum camp.

▶ Input Opportunity

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Announcements... Next meeting Sept. 11, 2007

Meeting adjourned 5:27 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Diana Daniels and Mardell Kiesel