

Mountain View Whisman School District

Agenda Item for Board Meeting of March 14, 2024

Agenda Category: Consent Agenda

Agenda Item Title: K-5 English Language Arts and PreK/TK Curriculum Adoption Update

Persons Responsible: Swati Dagar, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Acantha Ellard, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) Coordinator
Cyndee Nguyen, Director of Early Literacy

Background:

This report is a follow-up to the previous presentation in October 2023 and is intended to provide an update on the K-5 English Language Arts and PreK/TK curriculum adoption process.

MVWSD's K-5 English Language Arts and PreK/TK curriculum adoptions are aligned with our Strategic Plan 2027 Goal #1 - Providing effective and consistent instructional practices for all students. The goal of the K-5 ELA curriculum adoption committee is to pilot and recommend a curriculum that follows the Science of Reading and meets the needs of MVWSD's students. The goal of the PreK/TK curriculum adoption committee is also to pilot and recommend an integrated curriculum that follows the Science of Reading, develops language and background knowledge, follows a continuum of playful learning, and meets the needs of our youngest students.

The K-5 ELA curriculum is being piloted in 11 classrooms across multiple school sites and grade levels. The TK curriculum is being piloted in 4 classrooms. The PreK curriculum is being piloted in 7 classrooms.

Work So Far

Both committees have completed their first curriculum pilot:

- K-5 ELA Curriculum Pilot #1: Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts
 - The team received curriculum training on December 12th from Amplify. The team piloted the curriculum January 8 through February 16.
 - The team had a mid-pilot check-in meeting on January 30th. At the meeting, team members were able to get more training and have questions answered by Amplify.
- PreK/TK Integrated Curriculum Pilot #1: Teaching Strategies Creative Curriculum
 - The team received curriculum training on January 8th by Teaching Strategies. PreK/TK piloted a unit January 16th through February 16th.
 - Team members were able to join several open hours with Creative Curriculum if they had questions during the pilot. The team also had a mid-pilot check-in meeting on February 1st with Directors Kemper and Nguyen to discuss the pilot thus far.
- Both committees recorded their ratings and comments on the MVWSD ELA Pilot Rubric ([K-2](#) and [3-5](#)) and the [PK/TK Pilot Rubric](#).

- Directors Dagar and Nguyen and Coordinator Ellard visited pilot teachers' classrooms to observe Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts instruction. Directors Kemper and Nguyen also visited pilot teacher's classrooms to view Creative Curriculum instruction.

Both committees have begun their second curriculum pilot:

- K-5 ELA Curriculum Pilot #2: McGraw Hill Wonders
 - The team received curriculum training on February 13th from McGraw Hill. They will pilot the curriculum February 26th through April 5th.
- PreK/TK Integrated Curriculum Pilot #2: Savvas Three Cheers for PreK
 - The team received curriculum training on February 13th from Savvas. They will pilot the curriculum February 26th through April 5th.

Considerations

Learning how to use any new curriculum takes time; committee members are piloting as many components of the curriculum as they are able to. Piloting a new curriculum mid-year is also challenging because the scope and sequence is not in exact alignment with the curriculum that they were using previously.

Next Steps

Committee members will continue with their second curriculum pilot. Each committee will have a mid-pilot check-in meeting. The K-5 ELA Curriculum Adoption Committee will meet on April 20th to review their rankings and to make a recommendation for adoption. The PreK/TK Curriculum Adoption Committee will meet on April 23rd to do the same. Staff will bring the committees' recommendations to the Board on May 16th for review and discussion.