

Curriculum Meeting Minutes

SAC: Social Studies

Date: 9/10/08

Members Present: Bill Yount, Paul Trigg, Gary Kado, Risa Leonard Stevens

Members not attending: Susan Heddlesten, Susan Miller, Mary Meyers, Cesar Pena, Connie Myers

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Yount. The committee dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting.

Risa shared student performance levels pertaining to the Kansas State Social Studies Assessment. She also provided each member with the state cut scoring guide for History and Government. Each member then highlighted students that performed below the state standards. Discussion on the standards, benchmarks and indicators where district scores were low was educational for all. All members then looked at the Online Teacher Checklist which was provided by Leonard. Discussion on whether or not the teachers felt their classroom curriculum continued to be aligned with the state outcomes was educational. Teachers discussed the introduction and development of Social Studies vocabulary and it was the consensus that the student not meeting standard is largely due to the understanding of terms associated with various topics in History and Government. It was the consensus that student's need additional opportunities to develop vocabulary for successful performance. Additional discussion about the possible need for a Literacy Sac in order to provide for opportunities and understanding of how to teach, read and understand reading across the curriculum. That is a factor in low Social Studies and Science scores.

Teachers also expressed a desire to obtain copies of local Social Studies assessments. Risa will make sure that Mr. Trigg has copies of the 4, 5, & 6th CRT as well as a copy of the 7th & 8th assessment to Mr. Yount.

There was some discussion on the use of technology in the classroom and how teachers incorporate it during their instructional time. There was also good discussion on Literacy skills across the curriculum. Risa will bring

Reading Focus Lessons to the October 8th meeting and the committee will look at how they can coordinate efforts to encourage success where our students perform below the standard. They will also look at the alignment of the local assessments to ensure that we are covering our curriculum. The SAC also discussed future alignment in regard to the online curriculum. Risa also provided the online Teacher Checklist as an easy guide to guarantee that Kansas State Standards in History and Government are addressed.

Meeting adjourned 4:30 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Risa Leonard Stevens