

Board of Education Workshop  
Monday, June 12, 2023  
4:30 PM  
Board Room  
214 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE  
Buffalo MN 55313

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## MINUTES

### 1. Secondary Math Curriculum Adoption Proposal

Pam presents.

Why adopt new curriculum? Usually because our current materials are old, or we have new needs, or we have new standards to meet. All three are true. Last curriculum adoption date was 2010. We typically shoot for a nine-year review cycle.

- Stacy Eggers, BCMS

Shares about vision and process, as well as the recommendation for the MS. Stacy has previously been a HS teacher and worked through the process there. Our vision clarifies what is most important to us: growth mindset, perseverance, concrete/representational/abstract modeling. We wanted rigor with support. Wanted kids to be engaged, to have the resources they needed, and then push toward higher-level math. We studied what is being used elsewhere. This year we piloted some resources.

Recommending enVision Mathematics.

- We do not currently have any digital resources. New adoption will give us both print and digital resources.
- Resources will be available to teachers, students and parents who want to help their kids.
- enVision has Minnesota-specific lessons and resources

- Joel Peterson, BHS

- Speaking about ninth grade. Most ninth-graders take intermediate algebra to get them ready for geometry and algebra 2.
- This takes what they did in eighth grade and extends their knowledge. More word problems, investigative approach, and gives students ways to explain what they're doing. eMathinstruction is helpful for ninth graders.

- David Kilgore, BHS

- Struggle to not have a good online resource, particularly during the pandemic. I piloted the geometry. Almost all of the math teachers piloted something. Textbooks are great resources, and the online portion is quite good.
- 3 Act process was a good way for students to ease into math without numbers and with an intriguing problem. There are real-world applications. We tried some others and they were fine, but nothing went above and beyond, so that's where enVision stood out.
- Joel Peterson
  - eMathinstruction: ALEKS is an online platform - one of the biggest online resources. If we had this during COVID that would have been great. ALEKS gives a pre-test, then tailors problems to their level. It's great for an individualized learning plan. Good for MTSS courses.
  - Current stats math textbook is from 2005. Really liked the "Stats in Your World" book.
- Pam: Financial implications are in flux right now. Waiting on final numbers for subscriptions. At the end of the month when you approve we'll have more definite numbers. Evaluation occurs through the curriculum adoption process.
  - Covers next steps in memo.

### Questions

Amanda Lawrence: I like that there is individualized opportunity, but if you're doing math online how does it know if you're doing it right?

- David: It follows as you enter your answers, but that's where we as teachers step in.
- Stacy: Kids absolutely need paper with them as well. They can enter their answer into the computer, but that's how we can see where they went wrong. Even when things are online, there is absolutely a paper component. It's never completely online. They wouldn't show their work online.
- Joel: With eMath ALECS - we don't want them on a screen too much. They're already on too much. For regular 9th grade classes we like paper and pencil. But it does help us individualize instruction.
- Stacy: It's a balance.
- David: I taught two quarters with enVision. I think we're spending 20% of time with online resource through formative assessments. The vast majority is in person, paper pencil. It could be used all online if needed in another emergency, but we use the online portion of it as a supplement.

### 2. 5th grade Science Curriculum Adoption Proposal

Pam: Not typical to do multiple large areas at a time, but because of the way the standards have been adjusted, here we are. There were some significant shifts in content, particularly in 6th grade and 9th grade.

- Jenina Rothstein covers 5th grade science: As for vision, we wanted students to be actively engaged in science, thinking like scientists and working like engineers.
  - Overviews the process for review.
  - We wanted some more activities, not just reading and writing.

- Kate Volk discusses piloting in 5th grade.
  - It's very hands-on. We are playing through learning. Did dominos while talking about chain reactions. They cheered when we talked about pulling out Mystery Science. It connects science to doing things and creating.

### 3. BHS Science Curriculum Adoption Proposal

Pam presents - no teachers available. Brief presentation. Also shares financial implications. Some lab equipment would also be upgraded with this proposal. There will be a change in this financial implication before the final meeting.

- Physics not a part of this proposal, and some of the elective courses were not yet included, but this addresses our required courses.
- Reviews next steps.

### 4. BHS Winter Activities Review, Nick Guida

One thing I'm working on is doing classroom walk-throughs. This year I did better getting out of my office and getting down to see some of the behind-the-scenes things that go into creating that game-day experience. A lot happens behind the scenes. To be a part of that with our office and getting to that point where we can be in the venues into those spaces, that's the final product.

Numbers - we're doing pretty good. I would like to keep pushing. We want to provide opportunities for kids to come out in our existing experiences, and also to look at other ways to bring kids in and give them a chance to show their skills. Social media teams or something like that.

- Spring play: Lots more kids backstage.
- Gymnastics: Very good, high numbers. Our program is growing in numbers. The product they're putting out in the classroom is second to none. A few of our programs were off the charts in terms of GPA. And they're taking high-rigor courses.
- Knowledge Bowl: Those coaches are like pied pipers. They just have a big group of kids who keep coming. We had two really strong teams in the state this year. One took second in state. Very good numbers. That's a group of kids you might not know in the halls, but you get them in this environment and they can really show their ability.
- Dance: Over 30 kids. Wide range from MS to HS. We are getting better. Were able to compete at JV level a little bit this year. Lake Conference schools - they are like professional teams. Our kids have a greater variety of activities they do.
- Boys Hockey: Few big upsets this year over highly ranked teams. Hockey and football are two of the sports you talk about with bigger, faster, stronger kids. Usually the bigger, stronger team has the opportunity to win. We're very excited about where our programs are going and playing in one of the elite conferences in the country - our kids are battling every night and hanging in there. The bar is being raised. Good kids and leaders in the school.

- Same with Girls Hockey. Numbers down - Delano left us 4-5 years ago. There was a drop-off there. But the coach has done a great job at youth level so there is a wave coming back.
  - Boys basketball: Back to state this year. Last year they graduated 10 seniors. Fun for this next batch of kids to come up and play varsity. Ortmann did a great job pulling this team together. This was a great group of kids.
  - One Act: Watched our performance at state. Very powerful performance.
  - Mock Trial: Swanson is a pied piper as well. Kids just flock to him and want to be a part of this. Did a mix of virtual and in-person events.
  - Really a challenging year for girls basketball - one of the best conferences, and we had four of our top seven kids out this year. They had some tough nights but held together and stayed positive.
  - Wrestling: It's a numbers game. We were 7-1 beyond our conference. We have a strong youth program, lose a lot in the middle for a lot of different reasons. New coaching coming in and looking to see what we can do in the future.
  - Boys swim and dive: very strong year. Came up just short of section win, but sent individuals to state.
- Winter numbers: 4-5 years ago we were pushing 400 for kids. Now we're down at 350. I want to push back to that 400 number.
    - Girls basketball numbers are down statewide, it's not just a Buffalo thing. It's true around our conference. With specialization of sports, it's pulling kids to lots of different things right now. True for boys and girls, but very much for girls. Volleyball participation is through the roof, and once you start playing that everything else is off the table. We want to be well-rounded.
    - Girls wrestling is gaining momentum.
    - Did not have BPA interest from students or staff this year. Our business department was really taxed this year, but we'll see if we can get something going there again.

#### 5. Preliminary 2023-24 Budget - Ryan Tangen

This has been an unusual year. Usually we're only talking about the next year now, but this year with the legislative session there were a lot of unknowns. We are still learning things that are coming out of the legislative process.

There will be changes, and it is a long process. We'll project enrollment numbers again in November. Still need Oct. 1 student counts - when we have them we'll come back with our first revision.

- Reviews general fund revenue assumptions
- We're set up really well for 23-24, but we have a lot of work to do for 24-25 after the federal pandemic funds expire.

#### 6. 2023-24 School Board Workshop/Meeting Calendar

Meeting schedule has been set with visits to buildings for workshops.

## 7. Committee Reports

- AL: Legislative session
- SS: DCTLG
- SL: WTC
- BS: Another great BHS graduation. 57 minutes.