

# DIT

**February 12, 2007**

## **Agenda 12-3 PM**

*Recorder:* Barb McCalla  
*Timekeeper:* Paul Larkin  
*Facilitator:* Lisa Brookover

Minutes  
Approved  
Adoption of Agenda

### **Curriculum/Assessment**

#### Wood Tech Course- AMS

Eileen Dreiling presented a proposal for a class titled Introduction to Industrial Technology. The AHS Vocational Program would pick up the expense for the first year. Students would report for first hour to the high school and would be bused back to the middle school for the remainder of the day. Dennis Cantu made a motion to accept the program. Motion was seconded by Mary Knebler. Motion passed.

#### Vocational update- Health Explorations

We are too late to apply for this year. Benefits for students were discussed. The program and funding will be available again in two years for USD 402, but classes must be approved and should be taught for one year prior to funding.

#### Discussion- feedback on AMS/Elem Tech training

Lisa Brookover thanked Kelli Slaton and all those who presented at the training. Eileen Dreiling stated that the day went well in the middle school building. Sessions seemed short for the material presented, but classes will be offered by Kelli Slaton on the different topics from the in-service. Small groups were appreciated. Sessions were very well organized. Rooms were HOT. We need to follow up with tech support to make certain that the programs are usable in all buildings.

#### Team Building at AHS

Team building activities were held for an hour. Paul Larkin described several fun and successful exercises.

### State Assessments Update

Some special education instructors had questioned about the KAMM (modified assessment) and paper pencil test availability. It should come soon. Merek Holtzinger and Connie Chance are administering the KELPA to ESL students at Garfield. There is a pilot session that is attached to the state assessment. It will consist of reading, math, science, and social studies questions. Everybody will have to take the pilot section. Grades 3 and 5 will have pilot questions on just reading and mathematics. The pilot session can be taken outside of the testing window. *(Since our meeting information over the pilot test session was received and sent to DIT members)*

### Update on Lang Arts adoption

The elementary committee discussed current programs and discussed qualities that a language arts program should include. A survey will be given to elementary teachers to determine wants and needs. A committee is looking at a program called Read Right (Eileen Dreiling, Stephanie Brown, Pam Karlake, Jean Shetlar, and Marcie Bowman). Pam Karlake described a program called Read Naturally. Secondary has narrowed their search down to two companies. Adoption will be proposed at the March school board meeting.

Elementary math in-service on new texts will be held on March 9.

### **School Improvement**

#### Text Structure/Graphic Organizers

Lisa Brookover discussed the need for research-based graphic organizers and discussed a book titled Visual Tools for Learning. She also presented research from Inspiration Software, Inc. She shared a graphic organizer map that could be used district-wide and rubrics for graphic organizers.

Each school shared graphic organizers that are used to teach text structure.

Committee discussed the importance of text structures and the difference between elementary and secondary needs.

The need for a district-wide graphic organizer plan was discussed. Each building will discuss the use of graphic organizers with text structures at their level.

Looking at questions for future discussion, Lisa Brookover questioned the committee about needs and expectations across the district. (Example: What is quality work?) We discussed the need for high expectations to create a quality school district.

Next Meeting: April 19, 2007

#### April Agenda Items:

Teaming at the high school level

Text structure/graphic organizer conversations from buildings

Discuss upgrading of science departments

Curriculum and adoption schedule

Recorder: Pam Karlake

Facilitator

Time Keeper: Eileen Dreiling