

Seattle Public Schools Science Instructional Materials 9-12 Adoption Committee Meeting

October 27, 2018, 8:30am-3:30pm

John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence Room 2750

Committee Members in attendance:

Adoption Coordinator: MaryMargaret Welch; *Curriculum Specialists:* Brad Shigenaka, Emily Wang; *9-12 Committee:* Nahom Alemayehu, Nina Arens, Laura Bailey, Philip Bell, Judy Bridges, Aiden Buchanan, Brian Buchwitz, India Carlson, Kristen Dang, Lura Ercolano, Daniel Fisher, Jen Fox, Monica Fujii, Christine Helkey, Kristin Hughes, Margaret Jones, Yolanda Jones, AJ Kataroff, Greg Kowalke, Pam Kraus, Ruth Medsker, Ryan Miller, Stephen Montsaroff, Maureen Munn, Sofia Nguyen, Tiffany Robinson, Jessica Thompson, Brian Vance, John Wietfeldt

Meeting commenced: The Adoption Coordinator reviewed the agenda and goals for the meeting. An introduction activity asked members to share their personal “science story”, and what brought them to participate on the committee.

History of 9-12 Science in SPS: Background and summary of the evolution of science education to contextualize where we are and have come from to the adoption. A primer on the state of science instructional materials in 9-12 science, including the introduction of new state standards.

Adoption Process Timeline: Members reviewed the timeline for the adoption process, focusing on the committee’s responsibilities.

Introduction to Washington State Science Standards: The Adoption Coordinator provided an overview of the Washington State Science Standards (Next Generation Science Standards), including how they differ from previous standards under which previous curricula were adopted in SPS. She highlighted the significant shift in practice to include Science and Engineering Practices and Cross Cutting Concepts. The focus of the new standards is to provide equitable opportunities for ALL students to meet with success in STEM.

What Is High School Science and How Did We Figure This Out: The Adoption Coordinator outlined the alignment process that occurred for High School science, which resulted in a baseline framework for six 1-semester courses that students may take to fulfill the required 3 years of science under the new Core 24 requirements.

Role of the Adoption Committee: Committee members posed questions and the Adoption Coordinator clarified that the role of this committee is to review materials for the six 1-semester courses and the materials’ alignment with WA State Science Standards disciplinary core ideas, cross-cutting concepts, and science and engineering practices. It is not in the scope of this committee to ultimately decide the content or sequence of the courses, nor is it in the scope of the committee to alter state standards.

Introduction to the Review Criteria Draft: The Science Team introduced a first draft of the review criteria, compiled from several expert sources, so that the committee would have a starting point for creation of criteria. As a whole group, the committee reviewed Category 4:

Evaluation of Bias Content, and worked in table groups to collate revisions and input to the section.

The committee then split into separate work teams to review the other four categories, beginning work that will continue at the upcoming meetings to create a final Criteria for Evaluation. This evaluation tool will be used to evaluate all candidate instructional materials.

Meeting Adjourned: Members concluded work for the day by completing an exit survey and survey to determine future meeting dates. The next Adoption Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 11/13 and 11/15 from 5-8pm or a make up session 11/17 from 12-4pm. The focus of the meeting will be to continue to create the Criteria for Adoption.