

## 6-8 English Language Arts Instructional Materials Adoption Committee Meeting Summary

Thursday, March 14, 2023

5:00 pm-8:30 pm

- I. The goal of the committee meeting was made simple: come to consensus on the 6-8 ELA Instructional Materials finalist. The adoption coordinator made clear that if consensus is not reached, the committee will meet until a finalist is named through consensus. The process should not be rushed. The committee began the evening by taking a poll to determine if there was consensus on the finalist.
- II. The coordinator reflected on the risks and mitigation exercise that closed the previous meeting, noting most were from a teacher lens. Because the discussions have centered around adults, the session will be now focused on students. The committee then reviewed [policy 0030](#) *Ensuring Educational and Racial Equity* for guidance in terms of making the selection. They were asked to consider the potential ways that a curriculum adoption could support the goals of 0030.
- III. The committee then turned to the district English Language Arts 6-8 grade data from the 2023 Smarter Balanced Assessment, noting the results in the aggregate and results centered around students of color furthest from educational justice. The committee then examined data from the most recent report card of middle school ELA students, focusing on the percentage of students earning D's and E's. The committee was asked to consider how an ELA curriculum can meet the needs of these students. The committee brainstormed their responses and categorized them to further evaluate both finalists against what is needed.
- IV. The committee then turned to more data from field testers, who were asked about the culturally responsiveness of each curriculum in relation to instructional practices and assessments. A discussion about what the data said, what it meant, and the implications of it.
- V. Committee members then met as one whole group: each sharing their perspectives about the best choice for middle school ELA. They professionally challenged one another's thinking and grounded comments in evidence. Following that discussion, they voted and came to consensus on one finalist.