

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

NOTES

MARCH 29, 2012

The Curriculum Committee meeting was held in the classroom of fifth grade teacher Sally Spees. Third, fourth, and fifth grade teachers were present to describe their Math curriculum. The two Board members on the Curriculum Committee, Kathleen Lucey and Richard Wilkinson were present. Brian Sutton, Matt Shappell, Alan Chittick and Dave Westhoff represented the Administration.

Kathleen Lucy called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 A.M. A sample Lesson Plan page from the third and fourth grade Everyday Mathematics Journal was shared with those in attendance. In addition, a sample page from the third and fourth grade Everyday Mathematics Journal describing the content areas was handed out to the attendees.

The teachers indicated that Math class is one hour five days a week and that they cover one Lesson a Day from the Everyday Mathematics Journal. The faculty indicated that Instructional Math games compliment the Math Journals.

Cheryl Hebel said that there is a large volume of writing in the Everyday Mathematics series.

Kathleen Lucey asked if the faculty had time built into their schedules for team planning. They indicated that the lunch period was the only time they had for dialogue as a team.

Kathleen asked what resources would enhance their Math Curriculum. They indicated that the Journals are the most important resource.

Richard Wilkinson asked if the WKCE scores were helpful. Yes was the response, but the results are not made available quickly and do not improve instruction or curriculum as much as they would if the scores were available shortly after the tests are administered.

Sally Spees indicated that she is surprised that the Everyday Mathematics series does not meet the common core standards. However, Everyday Mathematics is revising their series to meet these common core standards in the near future.

Kathleen Lucey said that she is aware that some parents believe that Everyday Mathematics does not place sufficient focus on the basics. The faculty indicated that Everyday Mathematics focuses on understanding of concepts and less on drill and practice.

Professional Development was the last topic discussed. The faculty expressed their support for a more systemic professional development program. David Westhoff commented on the Professional Development Program in the Dodgeville School District. Each Wednesday the students are dismissed at 2:00 P.M. The faculty devotes 90 minutes to Professional Development activities.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 A.M. The next Curriculum Committee Meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 13th. The Agenda will focus on Middle School and High School Social Studies.