

MINUTES OF MEETING CURRICULUM COUNCIL

November 19, 2008

Individuals Present

Terri Seaton	Charla Kelley	Lisa Nix	Kay Matthews
Joe Rex	Bobbette Bell	Andrea Gonzalez	Janet Kemp
Terry Arant	Anna Kate Stanley	Joelle Jenkins	

1. CScope

Janet Kemp introduced CScope, a curriculum management system that the district will consider purchasing. CScope includes a vertical alignment document, year-at-a-glance schedule, instructional focus document, and exemplar lessons. This curriculum system has been updated to reflect the new ELA and English Language Proficiency standards. If Salado ISD chooses to purchase CScope, it may be implemented in a three-year plan.

2. Benchmark Assessments

Curriculum council members discussed the effectiveness of benchmark assessments using the Scantron (Achievement Series) method. Some expressed concern that the assessments were not testing what is being taught in the classrooms, and therefore the data generated from the assessments is not useful to guide instruction. Due to these factors and the cost of the program, council members recommend discontinuing use of Scantron for benchmark assessments. Janet Kemp will investigate cheaper (or possibly free) benchmark assessment programs.

3. Winter Literacy Probes

Winter literacy probes are scheduled for **Dec. 11**. Approximately 169 students in grades 3 – 8 who performed at or below the 39th percentile on the fall literacy probes will be assessed.

4. Optional Flexible Year Program (OFYP)

Salado ISD will offer OFYP to students who do not meet attendance requirements, who fail one or more subjects, and/or who do not pass TAKS. Each principal offered a brief description of the OFYP model on her campus.

5. October – Parent Conference Month

Open houses were scheduled at each campus during September and October to provide parents with an opportunity to meet their children's teachers. Parent conferences were NOT required for every parent in the district. However, parents of students who are considered "high risk" due to poor academic performance, excessive absences, and/or behavior problems were required to have individual parent-teacher conferences.

Curriculum council members agreed that this plan for Parent Conference Month is more effective than previous years, when every parent received an individual conference.

6. DATE Grant

The high school math and science teachers have been attending professional development, purchasing instructional equipment, and attending Academic Excellence meetings in order to meet the goals specified in the DATE Grant. The goal of the science team is to increase overall number of correct TAKS questions by 100. The goal of the math team is also to increase the overall number of correct TAKS questions by 100 and increase the number of commended scores by 10 percent.

7. STARS Conference

The STARS Conference has been discontinued. **Jan. 29**, which originally was a half day designated for the event, will be a full day for students and faculty. The half day has been moved to **Dec. 12** to accommodate the junior high UIL meet.

**The next meeting is 2:30 p.m. January 14, 2009
In the SIS conference room.**

AGENDA

- **CScope**
- **Optional Flexible Year Program (OFYP)**
- **DATE Grant**
- **Winter Literacy Probes**
- **Second Benchmark Assessment**