



# Curriculum Council November 17, 2009 Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Jill Bialek, Christine Beardsley, Shawn Bishop, Molly Bruzewski, Carla Derocher, Anne Dorian, Deb Dunbar, Linda Engelhardt, Brian Johnson, Ted Matuszak, Dave McCloy, Salle O'Neill, Jennifer Parrish, Allen Pauly, Kim Prime, Rhonda Provoast, Beverly Skinner, Doug Trombley, Don Vernon, Mike Vieau, Lisa Zettle

**Absent:** Jamie Cain, Terie Elbers, Michael Knoff, Sandy Miner, Randy Schantz, Pam Sook, Chad Zeien

1. **Welcome and overview of agenda** – Introductions were made.
2. **Mid-fall check in with Council Members** – Each member gave an update of what was happening in their districts.
3. **SVSU Math and Science Center** – An update on Math/Science news was distributed.
  - HS-MASS IV – 2010 Professional Development series announced for ALL high school teachers in Science. This training which takes place on February 19, March 26 and April 30, 2010, is aimed at improving student performance on the Michigan Merit Exam. Space is limited; registration is done by phone only at 989.964.4114.
  - Winter SMEK program – The *Science and Math Extravaganza for Kids* will take place on February 13, 2010 and is geared for students 2-4 and 5-8. Registration details are at [www.svsu.edu/mathsci-center/](http://www.svsu.edu/mathsci-center/).
  - **Grant and Free Opportunities for Teachers**
    - Target Field Trip grants – 5000 to be awarded at up to \$800 each. Visit <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031880> for more information.
    - Laptops from Samsung – contest for free laptops [http://pages.samsung.com/us/4seasons\\_hope?rules.html](http://pages.samsung.com/us/4seasons_hope?rules.html)
    - Freebies – <http://www.nsta.org/publications/freebies.aspx?lid=tnavhp>
    - Free Lessons – <http://pumas.gsfc.nasa.gov/>
    - **MACUL** – MI Champion grant to develop the expertise of teachers to use technology to improve student academic achievement please visit: <http://www.macul.org/grantsawards/michampionsgrant/>
  - **Math and Science Opportunities for Students**
    - Kettering University's Math Olympiad – <http://paws.kettering.edu/>
    - Earth Day Poster Contest for Grades K-5 – <http://www.epa.gov/kids>
    - Real World Design Challenge for Grades 9-12 – <http://www.realworlddesignchallenge.org>
    - You be the Chemist for Grades 5-8 – <http://chemed.org/ybtc/home.aspx>
    - \$3,000 Scholarship Opportunity for Grades 4-8 – <http://pestworldforkids.org>

#### 4. **Current Curriculum Schedule/Updates –**

- **Physical Education** - A Bay-Arenac ISD Physical Education Recommended Activities book for elementary schools was available for Council to take back to their districts. A special thank-you went out to the Bangor, Bay City, Bay County PSA, Pinconning and Standish-Sterling staff that worked on this document. The Middle and High School books will be mailed out this week. These books recommend activities by grade level that cover the Michigan Content Expectations as mandated by the state. Molly explained these books are works in progress and allow users to add to them through a Wiki that has been set up on the Bay-Arenac ISD website. For further information, please contact Molly Bruzewski at [bruzewskim@baisd.net](mailto:bruzewskim@baisd.net).
- **Curriculum Alignment** - Curriculum alignment work in the districts continues in Math and English.
- **Curriculum Goes Wild** – There are still openings in the Curriculum Goes Wild workshop that promotes collaboration between districts in the curriculum process. For further information, please contact Molly Bruzewski at [bruzewskim@baisd.net](mailto:bruzewskim@baisd.net).
- **Benefits of Common Formative Assessment** – Molly is looking for people to participate in the Building Capacity – Benefits of Common Formative & Summative Assessment workshop. \$500.00 stipends are available to those interested. For further information, please contact Molly Bruzewski at [bruzewskim@baisd.net](mailto:bruzewskim@baisd.net).
- **Personal Curriculum Updates** – Salle O’Neill, contracted Personal Curriculum Consultant, reviewed the personal curriculum process from denying a PC request and the appeals process. The difference between the diploma and the certificate of completion was also reviewed. To review the MMC FAQ document, please visit <http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-38924---,00.html>. A working group will be formed to create a standardized certificate of completion for districts to use. (Doug Trombley, Chair; Brian Johnson, Mike Vieau, Shawn Bishop)

#### 5. **Professional Development –**

- **February 1<sup>st</sup> Planning** – An overview of the day was provided. Elementary teachers will hear Deb Wahlstrom, the featured speaker, in the morning with breakout sessions in the afternoon. Middle/High school teachers will have their breakout sessions in the morning with the same featured speaker in the afternoon. Council broke out into small groups to discuss the layout of the day and any suggestions/concerns they may have.
- **MDE - Teacher Prep and Certification** – MDE held a Teacher Preparation and Certification regional meeting on November 16, 2009. You can view this regional meeting on [www.mistreamnet.org](http://www.mistreamnet.org) shortly.
- **Seat Time Waiver Workshop** – Bay-Arenac ISD and Iosco RESA have partnered with Genesee ISD to follow the existing GenNET model that has been implemented in Genesee County. Salle O’Neill will be hosting a Seat Time Waiver workshop on December 8, 2009 from 8:45 – 11:30 a.m. at the Educational Service Center to go over this process.
- **Literacy Coach Network** – There are currently 20 participants in the Literacy Coach Network facilitated by Jan Sopczynski. If you have staff members that are interested, please have them contact Jan at [sopczynskij@baisd.net](mailto:sopczynskij@baisd.net).
- **Writer’s Workshop** – Grades 3-5 – There are currently 25 participants in the Writer’s Workshop Facilitated by Donna Montei. This workshop will increase the knowledge of teacher’s grades 3-5 about the impact of a strong writing program in their school.
- **Teacher Evaluation** – Teacher evaluation was one topic that Curriculum Council wanted to explore as we set our priorities earlier in the fall. Deb Dunbar sought out Council’s suggestions on specific speakers and format, as we are planning PD for winter/spring at this time. A discussion was held that districts need to know how to communicate, observe, and properly address discipline. Potential resources include the SET-SEG seminar, legal aspects of evaluation, difficult conversations; a series or drive-in day format was suggested.
- **Walk through Training** – A similar discussion was held regarding walk-through training.
- **Articles** – Two articles were distributed by Deb Dunbar for review. 1) *Grading What Matters* by Tony Winger (from the ASCD magazine) and 2) *Let Data do the Talking* by Tracy Crow (from the NSDC magazine).

- **Materials from ETS Assessment Training Institute (ATI)** – Curriculum Council will be receiving a customized grading package for their districts which includes a copy of Ken O’Connor’s book *a Repair Kit for Grading: 15 Fixes for Broken Grades* and a copy of the interactive DVD, *Grading and Reporting in Standards-Based Schools*, featuring Rick Stiggins and Ken O’Connor.
  - **Field trip 11/18 to Genesee** – A group of Council Members traveled to Genesee ISD to hear Dr. Robert Marzano: *Getting Serious about School Reform*.
6. **MDE School Improvement** – Fall School Improvement Conference will take place on December 1-2, 2009. Local roll out will be on December 11. To register for the *Michigan CSI: Continuous School Improvement* on December 11<sup>th</sup>, please visit <http://www.baisd.net>, click on the professional development tab and browse by ALPHA.
  7. **Guided School Improvement Series** – Will begin in February and end in May 2010. Watch for more information to come.
  8. **Grants** – Bay-Arenac ISD consortium was awarded \$494,000 for the Data Initiatives Grant. A team will be going down to Lansing on Thursday and Friday of this week to learn how the grant will be rolled out. Future discussions will be scheduled on specific decisions to be made.
  9. **Data Warehouse** – Lisa Zettle displayed the new teacher page that she has been creating in the data warehouse.
  10. **Pearson/Benchmark** – Training opportunities for using Pearson Benchmark are being offered throughout the school year. The purpose of training is to assist teachers (and other staff) in understanding how to use Pearson Benchmark to create and manage assessments. Teachers are encouraged to bring actual assessment projects to the training for assistance and follow-up on “real” projects. Districts will be asked to complete a Pearson Roll Out / Implementation Plan prior to staff members being trained. Please contact Lisa Zettle at [zettlel@baisd.net](mailto:zettlel@baisd.net) to schedule any training. Below is a list of dates that have been tentatively scheduled:

Date	Time	Level
Dec 10	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Introduction to Pearson Benchmark
Dec 10	12:30 – 3:30 pm	Intermediate Pearson Benchmark
Dec 14	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Intermediate Pearson Benchmark
Jan 14	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Introduction to Pearson Benchmark
Jan 21	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Intermediate Pearson Benchmark
Feb 8	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Intermediate Pearson Benchmark
Feb 11	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Introduction to Pearson Benchmark
Feb 11	12:30 – 3:30 pm	Intermediate Pearson Benchmark
Mar 18	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Introduction to Pearson Benchmark
Mar 18	12:30 – 3:30 pm	Intermediate Pearson Benchmark
Apr 13	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Introduction to Pearson Benchmark
May 11	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Intermediate Pearson Benchmark

11. **Pinnacle Suite, Standards-Based Grading/Reports** - Charles LaClear High School Principal, Bridgeport Schools - [laclearc@bscs.k12.mi.us](mailto:laclearc@bscs.k12.mi.us) - discussed the standards-based grading and reporting system being implemented in Bridgeport. The district uses the Pinnacle suite of products. Council had an opportunity to ask questions.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: December 15, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.**

Cc: Superintendents

Submitted By: Jill Bialek