

# Bemidji District Curriculum Advisory Committee

7:00-8:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
District Board Room, Downtown Education Center

**Members Present:** Ami Aalgaard, Erin Curran, John Gonzales, Jim Hess, Donna Hickerson, Karie Hougard, Carol L. Johnson, Ann LongVoelkner, Kathy Palm, Ken Schreiber, Jason Stanoch, John Truedson, Kathy VanWert, Sonia Wadena, Janine Wahl

**Guests:** Kelley Hengel and Jason Koester

## **Minutes:**

1. Members introduced themselves. We welcomed new members John Gonzales representing Bemidji School Board and Jason Stanoch representing Bemidji High School. We also welcomed guests Kelley Hengel and Jason Koester.
2. We reviewed the December 13, 2016, District Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting minutes.
3. Jason Koester explained the plan for the 2017-2018 BHS Aeronautics course to include Ground School. Jason and an instructor from Bemidji Airport will co teach this course, which would normally cost students \$600 each. The airport is willing to offer this at no cost to encourage more students to become pilots and address the shortage of pilots. At the end of the course, students can test to complete this requirement for becoming a pilot. Students are able to take pilot flying courses through Bemidji Airport to become a commercial pilot. Jason is currently attending Ground School himself. Eventually, Aeronautics could lead to another Bemidji Career Academy.
4. BHS Counselor, Kelley Hengel, presented the Bemidji High School 2017-2018 Registration, which has been very successful. Registration is a huge process that requires many hands and starting early. They also go to the middle school to meet with 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes to explain high school programs. To date, BHS has registered 1,502 students 8-11, and 1,223 students have registered online. This year they are seeing a lot of interest in the new Bemidji Career Academies, and 225 students have registered so far, some for more than one academy: 25 for Business, 35 for Construction Trades, 81 for Health Careers, 25 for Light Sound and Video, 15 for Mechatronics, and 44 for Project Lead the Way.
5. Karie Hougard, Language Arts & Social Studies RtI Specialist, explained the training she and Amanda Mix provided the last two weeks for elementary teacher teams on the Minnesota Standards. They focused on understanding the standards language, vertical alignment from grade to grade, and MCA test specifications. During the Wednesday, February 15 Early Release day, these teacher teams shared

what they had learned with their grade level teachers, Title I and special education. Ami Aalgaard explained the process that the elementary principals have followed to help their teachers align their math and reading curriculum to the MN Standards.

6. Kathy explained the winter 2017 AIMSweb Math and Reading results for kindergarten and grade 1 including the subgroups. The learning targets increase from fall to winter to spring. Overall, Bemidji students are stronger in math than reading. Kindergarten students need to focus on Letter Naming Fluency and Number Identification. First grade students need to focus on Phoneme Segmentation, Curriculum Based Measurement, Number Identification, and Math Computation. Our goal is for 80% of all students meeting the target in each assessment area. Kathy reports the spring AIMSweb results to MDE to meet Reading Well by Third Grade requirements.
7. Kathy shared: What's New for 2016-2017 State Testing? Some highlights of this report are:
  - 2017 is the last year for the Optional Local Purpose Assessment (OLPA)
  - MDE has provided a new form for Parent Refusal, which must be done in writing and kept on file for two years. We also have a new test code for student refusal and more detailed test codes for test invalidation including if the student did something wrong, the student used a mobile device, or the test monitor did something in error.
  - We have greater concerns for mobile technology. No device that sends or receives information or has a camera is allowed in the testing room before, during, or after testing. These requirements include students and test monitors.
  - MDE will monitor schools unannounced to make sure test security is maintained.
  - We will receive the embargoed District Student Results secure MDE report on June 26, and the final Secure Assessment Reports will be available July 24. The public will receive test results July 27, and student reports will arrive in the district July 31.
8. The last District Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting for 2016-2017 is Tuesday, May 9 at 7:00 a.m. in the District Board Room. The Career and Tech. Ed teachers who are completing curriculum review this year will present their progress, standards alignment, and resource choices.
9. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.