

Middle School Curriculum Adoption Recommendations

Contact Person

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MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE CURRICULUM PROCESS

Throughout the 2024-25 school year, a team of Manzanita teachers, representing various grade levels, along with MPCS administration and the Santa Barbara County of Education leadership, convened and reviewed several curriculum choices for middle school mathematics: Amplify Mathematics Desmos, and Carnegie. All teachers were invited to be a part of the pilot team. The teacher team was led and supported by the school TOSA. Prior to the pilot process, curriculums were vetted and analyzed to confirm alignment with the anticipated changes with the new California Mathematics Framework and Manzanita's new middle school math pathway to ensure a high quality of instructional materials with mathematics.

The process began with meeting with SBCEO to determine math and science rubric needs for the Manzanita population. We used edreports.org to find curriculum that matched these needs. We participated in Math curriculum presentations from Amplify and Carnegie. For Science, we participated in Science curriculum presentations from Amplify Science and Elevate Science.

Based on the presentations, a decision was made to pilot both math curriculums in 6th grade. 5th is piloting both Science curriculums. After each pilot, we are meeting with SBCEO to debrief and collecting teacher and scholar feedback. We anticipate an adoption recommendation being presented to the Board at the May Board meeting.

Initial professional development was provided by the publishing companies. Additionally, released planning time was part of the pilot process. The mission of this Pilot Team was to recommend one curriculum that met criteria set forth at the beginning of the pilot process that would do the best job in improving student outcomes with mathematics and science.

ELA CURRICULUM PROCESS

Throughout the 2024-25 school year, a team of Manzanita teachers, representing various grade levels, convened and reviewed several curriculum choices for middle school Language Arts. The team narrowed the options to three publishers: Wit and Wisdom, Amplify ELA, and Common Lit 360. All three curriculums were sent to MPCS and were reviewed by the team. Based on a careful review of these materials, a decision was made to adopt Common Lit 360 for the following reasons: (1) Common Lit most closely mirrors the school's current ELA publisher-Benchmark Advance (2) Common Lit provide a strong writing program which has been a need expressed by all grade level teams (3) Fiscal cost of program is very competitive.

HEALTH EDUCATION CURRICULUM PROCESS

During the summer of 2024, a team of Manzanita teachers, representing various grade levels, convened and reviewed several curriculum choices for middle school Health model. Health education grade level focuses were determined as the following:

6th grade: Nutrition and hygiene

7th grade: Growth and Development/Sexual Health

8th grade: Safety and accident prevention/Substance effects/substance abuse and Prevention

After reviewing several options, the team is recommending “TEEN HEALTH” published by McGraw Hill/Glencoe. The curriculum teaches 10 critical health skills that align with the National Health Standards. This curriculum met Manzanita’s goal of teaching basic health concepts in a simple and straightforward manner.

We anticipate an adoption recommendation being presented to the Board at the May Board meeting.

WORLD LANGUAGE CURRICULUM PROCESS

Manzanita has reached out to local school districts to learn more about their World Language Curriculums. Reporteros, published by Klett World Languages, was identified as a possible option. This curriculum provided a starting point of Kinder-8th grade, and is interactive, relevant, and incorporates some of the AP contexts found in high school. As MPCS’s Spanish program is largely intended to provide a strong foundation for college bound middle school students, this curriculum meets that need.

We anticipate an adoption recommendation being presented to the Board at the May Board meeting.

SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM PROCESS

Throughout the 2024-25 school year, a team of Manzanita teachers, representing various grade levels, convened and reviewed several curriculum choices for middle school Social Studies.

Social Studies grade level time periods were identified as followed:

6th grade: World History/Ancient Civilizations

7th grade: World History/Medieval and early Modern times

8th grade: US History

After reviewing several options, the team is recommending utilizing its newly adopted ELA curriculum (Common Lit 360) as the primary resource for social studied instruction. This curriculum provides hundreds of grade level social studies resources for classroom instruction. In addition, each grade level will create project based units which align with the grade level historical time periods. This practice aligns with the current practice of ELA/Social Studies instruction for grades TK-6.

MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE CURRICULUM

<https://amplify.com/programs/amplify-desmos-math/>

<https://www.carnegielearning.com/>

ELA CURRICULUM

<https://greatminds.org/english/witwisdom>

<https://amplify.com/programs/amplify-english-language-arts/>

<https://www.commonlit.org/ela-curriculum>

HEALTH EDUCATION CURRICULUM

<https://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/program/teen-health-2021/MKTSP-GHT09M0.html?srsltid=AfmBOop9rzaKDpeIZob4RRRMFHuQq9oHK4PFRG4nF6W-y6bRaOd0kxY1>

WORLD LANGUAGE CURRICULUM

<https://klettwl.com/store/reporteros>

SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM

<https://www.commonlit.org/blog/3-ways-to-use-commonlit-in-social-studies-classrooms-35af3dd061bd/>