

NJASA Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting Notes – October 5, 2009 Meeting

In attendance were: Dr. Kathleen F. Fuchs, Chairperson, Jefferson Township, Morris county; Dr. Richard G. Bozza, Executive Director, Linda A. Martensen, Director, Professional Development, NJASA Staff; Richard Goldberg, Mullica Township, Atlantic county; Dr. Jerilyn M. Caprio, Bergen county; Joseph Langowski, Burlington Township, Burlington county; Brian J. Betze, Berlin Township, Geraldine R. Carroll, Lindenwold, Camden county; Judy Reyes and Lynda Towns, Woodbine/Ocean City, Cape May county; Dr. Thomasina Jones, Bridgeton, Cumberland county; Dr. Clarence C. Hoover, III, East Orange, Essex county; Dr. Joseph F. Canataro, Deptford Township, Patricia Haney, Logan Township, Gloucester county; Dr. Adele T. Macula, Jersey City, Margaret McBride, Kearny, Hudson county; Nancy Gartenberg, South Hunterdon, Hunterdon county; Dr. Victoria Kniewel, West Windsor-Plainsboro, Mercer county; Kevin W. Ahearn and Kathleen Skobo, Carteret, Middlesex county; Dr. David C. Abbott, Marlboro Township, Monmouth county; Bernice Colefield, West Milford Township, Passaic county; Everett C. Burns, Hampton Township, Sussex county and Dr. Margaret W. Hayes, Scotch Plains-Fanwood, Union county..

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Kathy Fuchs and Linda Martensen welcomed committee members
- Committee members were advised that Judy Rattner is the officer liaison
- Committee members introduced themselves
- A committee roster was shared

2. National Standards for Mathematics and Language Arts

- Committee members were advised that New Jersey has joined 48 other states in support of national standards that were developed by the National Governor's Association and the Council of Chief State School Administrators.
- Public comment is being sought until the end of October; everyone was encouraged to review the standards and offer comments
- Link to the draft standards is www.corestandards.org
- Committee members were informed that the national committee that will validate the standards consists primarily of college/university representatives. There is one K-5 mathematics coach and one superintendent.

3. Committee Goals/ Possible Topics for Future Meetings

- Committee members reviewed ideas for topics for future meetings and agreed to the following:
 - Revised protocol for the new SRA with a meeting date of **November 19***
 - Discussion with NJDOE representative regarding a possible draft of a curriculum template-UBD driven—that could be used by all districts—pacing, units of study, model lessons. New standards and timelines for curriculum alignment for science, mathematics, and language arts at the **February 23** meeting.
 - Algebra 1—meeting the high school graduation requirement; 8th grade algebra at the **April 13** meeting.
- Committee members felt that a 4th meeting date was needed—as the February 23 date was too late to address SRA concerns. *November 19 was suggested as a first choice. **(This date has been confirmed by Mrs. Martensen; the committee will meet on November 19.)**
- Committee members discussed criteria to determine our success:
 - Committee members recommended that our views and concerns be shared with the Commissioner through the Executive Director and officers. (See attached statement that was sent to the officers).
 - Committee members expressed concern about
 - “superintendent involvement” as NJDOE initiatives are planned and unfold
 - articulation among departments in the NJDOE
 - timelines for implementation of initiatives
 - the communication issues/confusion regarding the message when information about initiatives is provided to districts.
 - The Committee expressed a need for NJASA representatives to be “at the table”.

4. On- Target Authors

- Thanks to Brian Betze (Camden County) and Victoria Kniewel (Mercer County) who volunteered.
- Any other members—including members of a county roundtable—who are interested in writing an article should contact Linda Martensen.

5. Final Comments

- Richard Bozza, Executive Director, told the committee that NJASA is working hard to try to influence policy by meeting with candidates for the governor (Christie and Dagget) and sharing issues.