

APPROVED



Elgin Math & Science Academy

Minutes

Academic Excellence Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday March 2, 2022 at 3:30 PM

Location

<https://meet.google.com/bmi-edeq-hkd?hs=224>

Committee Members Present

B. Lane (remote), G. Swick (remote), J. Willer (remote), K. Kelly (remote), L. Sterba (remote), S. Said (remote)

Committee Members Absent

K. Shaw

Guests Present

Amanda Tanhauser (remote), Carla Peralta (remote), Lauren Beavers (remote), Paru Heer (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

B. Lane called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee of Elgin Math & Science Academy to order on Wednesday Mar 2, 2022 at 3:36 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

G. Swick made a motion to approve the minutes from Academic Excellence Committee Meeting on 02-02-22.

L. Sterba seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Student Achievement

A. NWEA

S Said shared the spring testing schedule: MAP will be 5/2-13; IAR 4/11-22

III. Curriculum

A. Science Curriculum

S Said reviewed the rubric for curricula adoption and how Amplify Science fits well within this rubric. The Committee discussed budget questions--Amplify will be covered by grants this year and future years will be worked into the curriculum budget. The Committee liked the adaptability to EMSA's future expedition-based curricula. Using STEM and tech as tie-ins and potential electives and/or specials was discussed.

K. Kelly made a motion to to recommend to the Board the adoption of the Amplify Science curriculum for K-8 at EMSA.

J. Willer seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Social Studies/History

S Said is investigating History Alive as a middle school pilot program.

IV. EMSA's Middle School

A. Updates

S Said reviewed the proposed bell schedule for middle school. Everything will be in 45-minute blocks. J Willer shared that electives will depend upon the talent that she can hire--she is optimistic about bringing in some dynamic science and social studies teachers. The 45 min blocks are similar to local middle schools (u-46 high schools have 50 min blocks). Longer block scheduling was discussed and J Willer shared that EMSA students have demonstrated a need for more movement and shorter class times.

V. Strategic Planning: Vision and Goals

A. EMSA Pillars, Goals, Objectives, and Activities

B Lane noted that these will be the focus of our next meeting.

VI. Other Business

A. Enrichment Teacher Job Description

The Committee reviewed the Enrichment Teacher job description and S Said, A Tanhauser and L Beavers answered questions about percentages of students scoring above 80th percentile and need for enrichment support.

While this teacher is not in charge of counseling students on their high school options, it was noted that this committee will revisit this topic.

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
K. Kelly

Documents used during the meeting

- Amplify Curriculum Adoption 2022.pdf
- Enrichment Teacher.pdf