

Vashon Island School District Curriculum Update 2006-07

November 30, 2006

Early Release Day: Friday, January 26th

This early release day presents an opportunity for middle school staff to work on first semester grades. The elementary and high school staff will work on curriculum alignment and classroom-based assessments. Please refer to your professional development matrix (in your blue staff binder). The matrix is also available online at http://vashonsd.org/curriculum/docs/Professional_Development_Matrix_0607.pdf.

Curriculum Links

The VISD Writing Guide is available at http://vashonsd.org/curriculum/index.php?/curriculum/pages/writing_curriculum/

The VISD Mathematics Guide is available at http://vashonsd.org/curriculum/index.php?/curriculum/pages/mathematics_curriculum/

The VISD Draft Reading Guide is available at http://vashonsd.org/curriculum/docs/VISD_Reading_Guide.pdf

Fundraising Possibilities

Selling Used Textbooks: We may be able to create revenue by selling our used textbooks. If you have textbooks that should be on the surplus list, please let me know. I will need the title and the copyright date. I will prepare the list of titles, review them with administrators and appropriate teaching staff, and then request that the Board of Directors approve them for surplus. Once the textbooks are on the surplus list, we must notify neighboring districts to see if they have an interest in any of our titles. If none of the districts express an interest in the materials, then we may contact several used textbook companies to see if they would like to purchase any of the books on our list. Anyway, it might generate some additional funds for the purchase of instructional materials.

COSMEO—Discovery Learning, Learning Adds Up: We have established a partnership with Discovery Learning (the Discovery Channel). Parents may subscribe to COSMEO, an on-line study tool for students. Discovery Learning donates 15% to 25% of the subscription rate to the school district (percentage depends on the number of families enrolled). The current rate for membership is \$9.95/month and parents may try the Web site for free for the first 30 days. As part of the partnership, each school will have access to 5 free accounts for the next six months. More information will be coming within the next week. The monies (if any) that we receive from this partnership will be set aside for the purchase of instructional materials.

Instructional Materials

Expenditures:

PTSA Literacy Funds (Auction 2005)

- \$53.27 Pre-K and K Story Books (Spanish versions)
- \$408.44 Read Naturally (remaining funds not covered by the first grant, CES LRC)
- \$265.83 Novels (remaining funds not covered by the first grant, McM: Kindred, T. Sawyer)
- \$228.42 Teacher resource books (McM—reading strategies)
- \$31.58 Show What You Know (McM)
- \$977.49 AP English (VHS—Hamlet, Haroun and the Sea of Stories, Cat’s Cradle, etc.)

PTSA Writing Funds (Auction 2005)—several of these amounts will be adjusted down once the final bills are processed

- \$907.20 Sitton Spelling Sourcebooks (CES LRC)
- \$773.52 Show What You Know (CES)
- \$265.30 Show What You Know (McM)
- \$186.84 Teacher resource book (McM--6 traits of writing)
- \$832.20 Writer’s Inc. (VHS—American Studies)
- \$1185.00 Bedford Glossary of Literary Terms (VHS--AP English)

All remaining funds from both grants will be spent on writing materials for McMurray (~\$1200).

Procedures:

The next draft of procedure 2124P should be available before the December break.

Materials Matrix:

A matrix of adopted instructional materials for general education is available at http://vashonsd.org/teacherweb/spencer/files/Instructional_Materials_Matrix.pdf

An updated draft of the instructional matrix for special services is available at http://vashonsd.org/teacherweb/spencer/files/Instructional_Materials_Matrix_Special_Services.pdf

Professional Development

Expenditures:

Writer’s Notebook (\$1050 from the assessment line item for Accelerated Learning Program)

Out of district trainings:

If you attend an out of district training sponsored by your school or the district, please let me know. We track the types of professional development activities in a yearly report for the school board. Also, please remember to complete the evaluation form as it helps us with our planning www.vashonsd.org/curriculum/docs/Feedback_Form_Professional_Development.pdf

In-district offerings:

Professional Book Club, Mondays, CES, 3:30 (open to all), up to 30 clock hours available

Basic Windows, Dec 6th, 3:30-4:15 in the CES Lab or Dec 13th, 2:30-3:15 in the McM Lab, no clock hours available

Red Cross Shelter Training (8:30 to 4:30), Wednesday, December 20th at the VHS Library, 8 clock hours available

Mentor/Mentee Program (TAP), the next meeting takes place on Wednesday, January 24th, 4 clock hours available

Indelible Instruction, Part I by Louis Mangione (completed): Twenty-eight staff members participated in this workshop that took place on Saturday, November 4th, 6 clock hours

Writer's Notebook by Sue Wiley (completed): Twelve staff members participated in this workshop that met from late October through last week, 14 clock hours

Paperwork

Salary Schedule Growth Step Form (clock hour/credit pre-approval):
www.vashonsd.org/curriculum/docs/Clock_hour_form.pdf

Program/School Improvement Plans

The Program/School Improvement Plans were presented to the Board of Directors on Thursday, November 9th. You may access this year's report as well as last year's report at the Web links provided below.

The 2006-07 P/SIPs Report is available at
www.vashonsd.org/curriculum/index.php?/curriculum/pages/program_and_school_improvement_plans_for_2006_07/

The 2005-06 P/SIPs Report (narrative report) and data file is available at
www.vashonsd.org/curriculum/index.php?/curriculum/pages/school_improvement_plans/

Update on the OSPI Social Studies Grant

We received notification from the OSPI that we were recommended for funding; however we were asked to make revisions and then to resubmit our proposal. We had to "scale back" the

original proposal per their request. We were recommended for \$2500, but have not received the final notification. We hope to hear sometime within the next few weeks.