

# WI Early Literacy Curriculum Council (ELCC)

Wednesday, February 14, 2023 | 4:00 - 6:00 PM

## MINUTES

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**Virtual Meeting:** Zoom Meeting

**Call to Order** - Vice Chairperson Amy McGovern called the meeting to order at approximately 4:01pm.

**Attendance** - Quorum was present.

### Council Members:

Present: Amy McGovern (Chairperson), Holly Prast (Vice Chairperson), Katie Kasubaski (Secretary), Megan Dixon, Nancy Dressel, Itzel Galindo, Joe Garza, and Bill Hughes  
Kari Flitz was not present.

Department of Instruction Staff: Tari Raatz, and Laura Adams

### **Approval of the Agenda** - Chairperson

Motion: Bill Hughes motioned to approve the agenda. Joe Garza seconded the motion. **The motion was carried 8-0.** (Kari Flitz was not present for this vote.)

### **DPI Updates** - Laura Adams, DPI

The last day to submit applications for the Office of Literacy Director is Friday, February 16, 2024. There are 22 applications for that position.

Other ACT 20 related legislative bills include an amendment that would delay the first screening until mid-year and another bill that would allow additional CESAs to provide required ACT 20 training. These bills are still moving through the legislative process and the WI DPI will send out clear updates if anything does move through the process.

### **Early Literacy Curricula and Instructional Materials for 2024** - Chairperson

Members reminded the public that the Wisconsin criteria for the curricular list is different from other states, and the rubric used by the Council and vendors for the self-evaluation is a combination of The Reading League and Knowledge Matters which includes all of the components of ACT 20. The main criteria was broken down into subcategories to help Council members score the overall categories. Members agreed in a previous meeting that an average score of 3.0 was sufficient to make our list, but that we may look at resources under 3.0 which might still be strong. The Council has been uniform in scoring and quantity does not mean quality. We should be careful to compare our list to other states because the criteria in ACT 20 is more robust than other states. Each category was weighted the same, and the rubric was available to the public on the [WI DPI website](#). Members used publishers' evidence in the rubric if they were unable to locate evidence. The curricular list is just part of the overall system created in ACT 20 which also requires strong assessments and ongoing professional learning and coaching.

Completed material scores: American Reading Company (ARC) 2.57, Bookworms 2.93, Center for Collaborative Classroom 2.56 and Success for all 2.40.

Motion: Joe Garza motioned that any curricula that did not make the 2.8 threshold (Open court 2.7, American Reading Company (ARC) 2.57, MyView 2.57, Center for Collaborative Classroom 2.56, Superkids 2.5, Success for All 2.4 and IMSE 2.0) will no longer be considered for the 2024 initial list from the ELCC. Bill Hughes seconded the motion. **The motion was carried 8-0.** (Roll Call requested: Megan Dixon - Yes, Nancy Dressel - Yes, Itzel Galind - Yes, Joe Garza - Yes, Bill Hughes - Yes, Katie Kasubaski - Yes, Holly Prast - Yes, Amy McGovern - Yes, and Kari Flitz - Absent).

Members discussed strengths and weaknesses of the materials between 3.0 and 2.8. Some members considered these programs bloated including both science of reading and balanced literacy materials. Bookworms did not seem to have the bloat, but would possibly need supplemental decodable texts. Wonders, Benchmark and Into Reading seemed to have red flags which the Council was looking to avoid in ELA materials.

Motion: Joe Garza motioned that Bookworms be added to the 2024 list of recommended programs from the ELCC. **The motion was carried 6-2.** (Kari Flitz was not present for this vote.)

Motion: Joe Garza motioned that Wonders, Benchmark and HMH Into Reading not be included on the final 2024 list from the ELCC. **The motion was carried 6-2.** (Kari Flitz was not present for this vote.)

Members requested more information about the DPI process for reviewing materials. The DPI was not prepared to discuss who and how programs were being vetted. The WI DPI restated that they are following the law, and that no partial programs would be approved for the list. The DPI started reviewing materials after the January 24, 2024 meeting. Council members restated that they were unaware of the DPI's hard February 16, 2024 deadline until the last Council meeting and members worked quickly to review comprehensive submissions. Council members cautioned the WI DPI to present quality versus present when scoring materials. Amy McGovern and Holly Prast will draft a statement of the Council's final list and sent it to the WI DPI in an official format.

The Council discussed having an ex officio from the Council as a non-voting member on the DPI team for the Office of Literacy Director position as someone who could update the Council on the selection process.

### **Council Updates** - Chairperson

Future meetings are Tuesday, March 5 from 4:00-6:00 pm.

**Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:03 pm.