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DPI-NR 2023-61

Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023

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DPI announces members of Early Literacy Curriculum Council

Group will review, recommend instructional materials in accordance with 2023 Act 20

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, in coordination with the Speaker of the Wisconsin State Assembly and the Majority Leader of the Wisconsin State Senate, today announced the members of the Early Literacy Curriculum Council. The council, as required by [2023 Act 20](#), will focus on reviewing and recommending instructional materials which will guide the grant program for districts electing to select evidence-based early reading programs.

The nine members of the council include:

- Bill Hughes, President of Hughes Strategic Group
- Megan Dixon, 2nd Grade Teacher at School District of Greenfield
- Kari Flitz, Chief Instructional Officer of the Lincoln Academy
- Amy McGovern, Associate Director of Continuous School Improvement Services at CESA 9
- Itzel Galindo, Executive Director of Ampact/Wisconsin Reading Corps
- Nancy Dressel, K-5 Curriculum and Instruction Specialist at Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District
- Joe Garza, Superintendent at School District of New Berlin
- Katie Kasubaski, Wisconsin State Lead of Decoding Dyslexia
- Holly Prast, Assistant Superintendent at Kimberly Area School District

As required by 2023 Act 20, the Speaker of the Wisconsin State Assembly, the Senate Majority Leader, and the State Superintendent each appoint three council members to serve for staggered three-year terms.

“I’m eager to get this important work started and that begins with convening this council,” State Superintendent Dr. Jill Underly said. “These individuals have a lot of work ahead of them, and I appreciate their willingness to lend their time and expertise.”

(more)

“Each of these appointees’ dedication and expertise will serve the council well on its mission to bring effective, science-based reading instruction into Wisconsin classrooms,” Sen. Devin LeMahieu said. “I’m looking forward to reviewing the council’s plan to get our students back on track.”

“Learning the basic foundational reading skills is essential to every student’s educational success,” Rep. Robin Vos said. “Members of the Early Literacy Curriculum Council will play a crucial role in guiding school districts to improve our children’s literacy outcomes by recommending science-based curricula, a proven method to teach children to read. I want to thank each member for their willingness to serve on such an important council.”

Updates and additional information on the Early Literacy Curriculum Council and the department’s work to implement 2023 Act 20 can be found [on the DPI’s Wisconsin Reads webpage](#).

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