

Board of Education  
Norway-Vulcan Area Schools  
300 Section Street  
Norway, MI

Curriculum Committee  
February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019

The Board of Education of the Norway-Vulcan Area Schools met in a Curriculum Committee Meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2019.

Board Members Present:  
Jan Van Gasse; Treasurer, Brady Gustafson  
Mark Rietveld; Trustees

MEMBERS PRESENT

Board Members Absent:  
none

MEMBERS ABSENT

Administrators Present:  
Louis Steigerwald, Superintendent  
Rico Meneghini, EK-8 Principal

ADMINISTRATORS  
PRESENT

Administrators Absent:  
None

ADMINISTRATORS  
ABSENT

Others Present:  
none

OTHERS PRESENT

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 P.M.  
by Treasurer, Jan VanGasse.

### **Approval of Agenda**

78. Motion by M. Rietveld supported by  
B. Gustafson to approve agenda

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion Approved 3-0

### **Public Participation**

None

### **Action/Discussion/Information Items**

Rae Anne Seat presented and discussed Mystery Science (M. Sci), especially for grades K-2. M. Sci is aligned to the Next Gen Science Standards. Does need consumables. Lessons are 45 min-1 hour. Mrs. Seat reported that the language and the tasks are similar to some of the language and tasks in Ready-Math, which she likes.

For elementary there's a need to convene a meeting for grades 3 & 4 as there was uncertainty about using Mystery Sci in those grades.

Middle School: Elizabeth Benz and Karen Hackstock spoke about Stem Scopes (SS) for science. Reported that until very recently they were ready to recommend SS; however, Ms. Benz had heard from two science curriculum coordinators that there are better products out there. She asked to delay a decision about middle school while she checks out a product connect to Michigan Tech called MI-Star. MI Star is Next Gen Science aligned and is mainly a digitally based product. Ms. Hackstock requested that they be allowed to continue with StemScopes for the remainder of the year. Until this point they've been using a trial period of SS. Mr. Steigerwald is to check on cost of digital portion of SS and the committee felt that, assuming affordability that going with SS at least temporarily and until more is learned from Ms. Benz's research would be fine.

High School: Mr. Steigerwald reported that for chemistry and physics Mr. Leiker and Mr. Madigan reported that they do not need new text material at this time. Mr. Galvin reported about the Pearson edition of texts for Biology. Mr. Galvin said that the text is compliant to Next Gen Sci standards. The product does have online content that Mr. Galvin finds useful. He noted that, per the Next Gen strategies for science that the Pearson labs move from reinforcing reading from a text, that the labs are more centered on the discovery method.

There being no further business before the Board, Treasurer Jan VanGasse adjourned the meeting at 6:28 PM

ADJOURNMENT

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Louis Steigerwald, Superintendent

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Jan VanGasse, Treasurer

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Mark Rietveld, Trustee