

REDDING BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES - CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS
April 6, 2010

Filed subject to approval.

Present: C. Freeston; J. Gaspar; K. Joyce- Kirk; D. Martin; M. Mas; E. Miller; S. Pierson Ugol;
C. Wessman Huber

Public: Two members of the public were present.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

DISCUSSION

The discussion focused on reading across the curriculum. Ms. Marie Mas opened the session providing background knowledge specific to the Reciprocal Teaching Model, a research-based instructional model to improve comprehension and self-monitoring while reading. This model has been implemented in both the elementary and middle schools to improve student achievement in reading.

Ms. Diane Martin and Ms. Darlene Wallin provided a description of the professional text-based discussions by the entire faculty at John Read Middle School. These active discussions are based on Sharon Faber's book, *How to Teach Reading When You're Not A Reading Teacher*. Ms. Martin also shared that teachers have been developing reading assessments across the content areas, including in social studies.

Ms. Pierson Ugol provided several examples of how teachers integrate the use of non-fiction guided reading and shared reading texts across the content areas of science and social studies at the elementary level. Guided reading texts and big books used for shared reading lessons were displayed for committee members to review. Carrie Wessman shared her doctoral research based on the implementation of the Reciprocal Teaching Model to solve math word problems.

Brian Farrell shared information related to literacy initiatives in co-taught classes with special education textbooks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public audience participated throughout the session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Curriculum Conversations meeting will be held on Thursday, May 13 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the John Read Middle School Community Room. The topic will be transitioning from elementary school to middle school and from middle school to high school. All Redding parents and interested community members are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted by E. Marie Mas