

***Science Vertical Team
Minutes of Meeting
March 18, 2008***

Ninth Grade Science Text

A group of teachers from Tech and Apollo reviewed physical science texts from four different companies. They used a form for reviewing texts that they received from Andrea Preppernau. The group determined that the Glencoe text was their choice.

Factors that led to this choice:

- Earth standards included as well
- Reader friendly
- Activity based
- Usable
- Mini labs included
- Section on applying math
- In-depth labs
- Standardized test practice
- ELL ideas
- Differentiated instruction manual
- CDs and online resources
- And more

A discussion took place as to the most efficient and effective way to get teachers familiar with the text. One idea was to get the rep from the company here this spring and gather all ninth grade science teachers for this. Quarterly meetings for next year were also suggested. It may be good to include the 8th grade science teacher in these as well.

Other Materials

Julia asked for the text information. Bob Huot has this and will get it to Julia. Discussion was held regarding the need for science topics in leveled readers at lower levels. It was suggested to work through the school media specialists.

School Board Presentation

After discussion, it was decided to do the presentation to the school board in April. The team will work on this during the April meeting and present at the second Board meeting in April.

The plan:

Chris Ann will present the Big 7.

An 8th grade teacher will present the new 8th grade changes.

Kari will present the elementary document matching curriculum to standards.

Somebody will present the new 5th grade science materials.
Jen will present the new 9th grade texts.
The remodeling project will be shared.

Data

Chris Ann shared data regarding the number of students taking AP Chemistry over the past several years. She also included their test results.
A discussion about other forms of data for us to look at took place.

SMART Goals

Team reviewed what a SMART goal is. Worked on the goal for next year.
This is the tentative goal:

Collect data from the 2008 Science MCAII to establish a baseline of percent proficiency.
Utilize this data to identify strand data.

Department and Grade Level Meetings

The team had a discussion regarding what was valuable about the Vertical Team process from last year. Secondary teachers miss the opportunity to gather as a science group. Elementary teachers expressed that they miss their grade level meetings as well. The group wondered if there could be a blend of Vertical Teaming for All and the former method as well.