INFORMATION SHEET 05/10/2022 TRUSTEES' MEETING

To: Jim Bridges, Superintendent

For: Board of Trustees

From: Sarah Steen

Re: Math Curriculum Adoption, Grades 5-8

The District recommends adopting Illustrative Math curriculum for grades 5-8, based on careful review and a year-long pilot. The Curriculum is highly rated and was also recommended by our county office math department. According to EdReports, an independent nonprofit that reviews K–12 instructional materials, Illustrative Mathematics meets all expectations across all three gateways for focus, coherence, rigor, mathematical practices, and usability. As a district math team, we identified the program strengths as well as the areas of need and we will create a PD plan to support the formal adoption. This plan will include additional teacher collaboration/planning time.

Our district math data has shown how important this new adoption is and that a major instructional shift is needed. This new curriculum will help our students develop a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts by making meaning of their conversations with each other and their teacher.

Strengths: Collaborative learning opportunities, rich and deep student conversations using academic vocabulary, instructional routines that require problem-solving, teacher learning supports online, scope and sequence of units and activities designed to develop a deep understanding of mathematical concepts and build math fluency.

Needs: Teacher time to collaborate on pacing, assessments, and time to look ahead to set up centers. Additional teacher training and support as needed and time to review and use all resources within the program. Identify supplemental resources for additional practice problems. Identify strategies to use when students struggle with concepts and academic language and they aren't having rich conversations yet.

Selection Criteria - Evaluated the following program areas:

- Alignment to the Standards
- Mathematical Practices
- Focus, Rigor, Coherence, and Balance
- Consistent Progressions
- Universal Access & Instructional Strategies
- Assessments

Next Steps, purchase consumable items/print resources, as needed. The IM curriculum is free to educators online but the print materials can be purchased through certified partners, such as Kendall Hunt. The district will purchase items as needed, including consumable math kit materials. A collaboration and training plan will be established. Obsolete math materials will be collected with a plan to surplus appropriately.

The following steps were completed in the adoption process:

- Math Team made up of teachers from all grades and school sites as well as district instructional coaches and administrators involved in pilot, reviewed and provided input.
- Year-long Pilot, included overview training from the publisher. (Piloting several programs would have been disruptive to student learning.)
- Conducted in-depth evaluations of programs. Including: Evaluation, publisher training, Coach support, and piloting the program in the classroom.
- Math Team met to identify strengths and challenges.
- Curriculum available for community preview, online and at the district office.
- Submitted a recommendation to School Board for approval.

Recommended Action: Approve the district adoption of the Illustrative Math curriculum for grades 5-8, using a certified publishing partner for consumable and print materials, as presented.