

# The Professional Committee



ProCom is a joint committee of  
The Millard Public Schools and  
The Millard Education Association



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**The PROCOM meeting was on May 20, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. at ESU #3.**

**DISTRICT:** Keith Lutz, Kirby Eltiste, Angelo Passarelli, Mark Feldhausen, Craig Whaley, Jon Lopez, Jeff Alfrey, Brian Begley, Kevin Chick, Chad Meisgeier, and Kim Saum-Mills

**MEA:** Tony Levy, Lynne Elwood, Molly Erickson, Charles Gould, Jim Mercer, Erin Shirmang-Ward, Reynee Shanahan, and Sherry Havranek

## **READING ADOPTION:**

The Curriculum Management Audit determined that the reading program needs to become a K-12 program. The focus may be on the transition from the sixth to seventh grade, and eighth to ninth grade.

On June 5 the committee will meet to examine materials that will apply to the established criteria. Two to three programs may be piloted at the elementary level. The pilot training will be completed during this summer and at fall workshop. It will be important the district is aligned with the state standards. Implementation of this program would not be done until 2009-2010 or even 2010-2011. A major factor will be determined by the budget, so this program could be scaled down.

## **BUDGET:**

During the 2008 legislative session the state discovered a deficit of over \$136 million and decided to cut \$80 million from education. Initially Millard was to receive an \$8 million increase, but after recertification in February Millard was left with a shortfall of over \$9 million dollars. Several options are being considered as to where the district will make their cuts or reduce revenues. There will be continued discussion with the Board of Education on the budget.

## **ELO Tests:**

Jon Lopez answered questions about various issues that occurred when giving tests. Issues included problems that teachers reported with errors in instructions, clerical errors on two items on a middle school test, and timeliness of the return of scores. Jon Lopez indicated that the office planning and evaluation has been aware of and responded to these issues. Jon Lopez indicated that the administration of all elementary ELO assessments was taken over by the office of P&E from Educational Services. This as well as a necessary increase in test development in reading and math at all levels for second-round testing contributed to some of these issues.

There are no plans to develop any new tests for next school year so consequently there will be no teacher pull out days for test development and standard setting.

Under LB1157 the Nebraska Department of Education will conduct state-wide testing in reading. Since this test is coming in the ELO tests will be eliminated. However, the ELO test has the potential to be used as a common course assessment at the classroom level. Whenever a test is required by the Nebraska Department of Education Millard will eliminate one.

**PLC:**

There was a concern about whether the district was requiring buildings to have teachers submit their PLC products to review with their end of year teacher evaluations. The district is not making such a request upon building administrators. If teachers are asked to produce a product in their PLCs (e.g. common formative assessment), then administrator's should be having dialogues with their staff about these products. Kim Saum-Mills shared that the implementation of PLCs is at different levels across the district depending on each building.

Dr. Lutz and Mark Feldhausen shared that the PLC parameters for 2008-2009 are a little less "tight" with softer language, and hopefully this will make it a little more flexible.