

**Eastford Elementary School  
Curriculum Committee Minutes  
Tuesday, June 11, 2024**

**I. Call To Order:**

- The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.
- Attendance: Carole McCombe, Donna Leake, Michael Bilica, Adam Minor, Lauren Barlow, Elizabeth Rhyhart

**II. Request for approval of ELA Curriculum Materials for grades K-3**

- a. Bookworms (literacy, fluency, comprehension)**
- b. Geodes (phonics – decodable readers)**
- c. Foundations (phonics and phonemic awareness)**
- Carole provided the committee with an overview of the process behind the selection of materials and the involvement of the ELA Committee of teachers. The function/purpose of each component was discussed and pricing estimates for various package bundles were provided. Elizabeth Rhyhart spoke specifically about the importance of phonics/phonemic awareness instruction in the lower grades. She shared that overall assessment results may indicate that a child is a fluent reader, but in reality they don't have a solid grasp of the phonics and spelling patterns needed to continue to grow in their reading, vocabulary, spelling, and writing as they get older. We see this pattern in many of our students all the way up to grades 6 and 7.
- The Curriculum Committee inquired about the Science of Reading Legislation and questions were answered.
- The Curriculum Committee approved the purchase of the required new materials through the use of grant funds and the money available in the budget without requesting additional funds. Carole will negotiate pricing with the publishing companies. A suggestion was made to begin the process by purchasing all required materials for grades kindergarten and first grade and then add in the other grades as funding allows.

**III. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

**Submitted by:** Carole McCombe, June 20, 2024