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Curriculum & Professional Development Committee

Monday, March 23, 2026

4:30 pm

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ehy-xipb-ijm>

- I. Welcome
 - a. Notice of Recording
 - b. Attendance
- II. Items for Discussion
 - a. Review Amplify, HMH, and Savvas Rubrics for recommendation of adoption of a science program
 - i. The committee reviewed feedback from teachers who piloted three different science programs. The primary goal was to select a curriculum that aligns with Arizona state standards while remaining user-friendly for teachers. The EQUIP rubric was used to rate the three programs.
 1. **Savvas (Recommended):**
 - **Alignment:** Teachers noted that Savvas is exceptionally helpful with Arizona-specific alignment. The company provides resources that map lessons directly to state standards, reducing the prep burden on teachers.
 - **Consistency:** The lessons follow a predictable "step-by-step" routine (Step 1, 2, 3), which helps students build a sense of authority and autonomy in their learning.
 - **Flexibility:** Because Arizona's standards for grades 3–5 are grouped, Savvas makes it easy for teachers to "pull" necessary standards from different grade-level modules to ensure full coverage.
 - **Literacy Integration:** The program includes a strong "writing in science" component, helping students practice technical writing within their scientific inquiries.
 2. **HMH (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt):**
 - **Pros:** The committee liked the "fun" nature of the program and its strong cross-curricular links to ELA and Math.
 - **Cons:** Members expressed concern over the company's lack of flexibility. There was a heavy reliance on physical workbooks (consumables), and teachers felt the digital platform was less intuitive for "mixing and matching" standards compared to Savvas.
 3. **Amplify:**

