

EARLY CHILDHOOD  
CURRICULUM UPDATE  
2018



# OBJECTIVES



- Current curriculum
- Curriculum Considerations
- Creative Curriculum Overview
- Curriculum pilot
- Cost and Training
- Recommendation

# CURRENT CURRICULUM

- Current curriculum: High Scope
- Adopted in 2010
- Concerns:
  - Does not easily meet needs of students with IEPs
  - Limited family component
  - Not aligned with District kindergarten curriculum
  - Scripted program, limited flexibility
  - Does not incorporate student interests



**HIGHSCOPE.**

## CURRICULUM CONSIDERATIONS

EC team identified the following NEEDS in a curriculum:

- Alignment with Illinois Early Learning and Development Standards teaching sequence
- Correlation with the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scales
- Consistency with curriculum used in ECDEC program
- Family education and involvement component

## CURRICULUM CONSIDERATIONS

EC team identified the following WANTS in a curriculum:

- Provision of a teaching guide, not a script
- Incorporation of student interests
- Responsive to student strengths and needs
- Utilizes teaching strategies that allow for incorporation of developmentally appropriate books and topics
- Allows for creativity on part of instructor when choosing instructional materials

## CREATIVE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

- Research-based, comprehensive curriculum
- Focused on student exploration and discovery to develop confidence, creativity and problem solving skills
- Aligned to Illinois Early Learning Standards
- Provides specific topic guides to structure lessons
- Incorporates language, literacy, and social-emotional learning into lessons
  
- Teachers can select materials, books and activities from the kit or use their own


## CREATIVE CURRICULUM - HOME CONNECTION

- Parents receive information about the topic of study prior to teacher planning instructional activities
- Parents invited to share materials/knowledge/experience with topic
- Example: Greenbrier Construction





# CREATIVE CURRICULUM PILOT

- Prior to pilot:
  - Team reviewed published curricula options
  - Reviewed ISBE Division of Early Childhood
  - Reviewed D25 kindergarten curriculum with DSL staff
- Pilot:
  - 2017-18 school year
  - 5 teachers participated
  - Observed program implementation (ECDEC, 206, 59)
  - Attended information sessions and training through StarNet
  - Publisher provided samples of materials

# COST AND TRAINING

- Complete kit cost: \$1350, includes:
  - Teaching guides
  - Mighty Minutes
  - Student library
  - Study Guides
- Publisher provided one set of teaching guides at no cost
- District purchased one complete kit in 2017-18 as part of pilot
- Need to purchase additional supplementary materials: \$2000
  - Additional books, manipulatives

# COST AND TRAINING

- Training
  - Pilot teachers attended three training days in 2017-18 on Fridays (no sub cost)
  - StarNet provided full day training on October SIP (no sub cost)
  - StarNet to provide one additional training day (no sub cost)
- Staff Collaboration
  - Monthly, planned collaboration time (no sub cost)
  - Component of SIP goal





THANKS!

Any questions?