



Classical Charter School Language Committee  
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## LANGUAGE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

**April 14th, 2016, 3:00- 4:15 pm**  
**Classical School Library**

- ❖ Attendance -  
Tom Bomann, Sara Lariviere, Sarah Roe, Joanne Bielmeier, and Kiran Chawla
- ❖ Approved board minutes from the February 11th, 2016 World Language Committee Meeting.
- ❖ Spanish discussion
  - Stamp Assessment is \$20/student, this assessment evaluates reading, writing, etc. Anna Cihlar mentioned that assessment would be too much for our needs. High School teachers who give this assessment, do not evaluate presentation and communication. We use checklist to develop assessments.
  - There is a need to make changes to our Spanish Curriculum, the K-3 grades were all working on a unit and doing something different. K- 3rd grade materials have overlap and everything is created by the teachers based on the checklists. Anna Cihlar and Sara Lariviere have met in the past to evaluate the curriculum for K-3 grades to remove overlap in the concepts in those grades.
  - Checklists are good, but there is an overlap of concepts between grades, so there is a need to have a more detailed checklist, it should be more like the CK sequence. The natural progression of Spanish has never been looked at and it needs to be looked at by a larger group. In the past Anna and Sara, have worked on it for a couple of days during the summer.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> grade and above follow textbooks, which are grammar heavy and not so conversational. Some grammar concepts are repeated a lot and maybe cut down in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. A summer effort would be needed to work together.
  - Joanne will follow up with Nancy to offer summer time work to Anna and Sara.
  - Checklists would have to be combined with skills and interpersonal checklists. Also would have to look at both Core knowledge and Classical curriculum. It would take about a week/grade to develop spreadsheets.
  - Currently Spanish teachers do not have access to each other's lists; documents are placed in a shared place in Google docs. A structure would have to be developed to help with the spreadsheets and then information will have to be entered into the spreadsheets, starting with Kindergarten. Joanne will check with Nancy and work with Anna and Sara to develop the format/structure.
- ❖ Latin discussion
  - Gwen Bomann will be training/facilitating the summer symposium; it may be for about 3 hours/day for K-3 grade to help review Latin. It may be beneficial to bring an expert for 1 or 1.5 day to help with the training. Joanne will check the cost for the training by an expert and also see if Paul can be used as a resource during the symposium.
  - Typically watching recordings and webinars do not count towards professional development, since there is no collaboration. DVDs are available for instructional exposure to Latin. Joanne will find out if watching the DVDs could count towards professional development.
  - Memoria Press could develop a bridge for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for 2017-2018 school year. This may involve modification of their Prima Latin materials. Joanne will check with Paul if he could work on it over the summer.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers are concerned about the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of implementation. The removal of Shurley Grammar in 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade is also still a concern for future writing skill development. Joanne will talk with Anne to be sure this is addressed by the Writing Committee.
  - Latin and Greek roots/phrases are taught for approximately 45 min/week and they would be eliminated once a formal Latin program is implemented beginning in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

- Joanne will ask Paul if Latin materials for 4<sup>th</sup> grade could be covered in the time freed up by eliminating separate roots/phrases instruction. If so, consider if it is possible to keeping Shurley grammar in the curriculum at least in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, possibly 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Removing repetition in our curriculum also needs to be looked at, to allow time for Shurley grammar to stay in the curriculum.

❖ Action items:

- Joanne will follow up with Nancy to offer summer time work to Anna and Sara.
- Joanne will check with Nancy and work with Anna and Sara to develop the format/structure.
- Joanne will check the cost for the training by an expert and/or if Paul can be used as a resource during the symposium.
- Joanne will find out if watching the Memoria Press Latin DVDs could count towards professional development.
- Joanne will check with Paul if he could work over the summer to develop a bridge for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- Joanne will ask Paul if Latin materials for 4<sup>th</sup> grade could be covered in 30-45 min/week.

❖ Public comment - None

**Conclusion**

- ❖ Next meeting : TBD