

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Curriculum Enrichment Committee
West Houston Charter Alliance, Inc.
January 5, 2010**

1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum at 3:52 pm. In attendance were Lucina Botond (LB), Brenda Davidson (BD), Ryan Birsinger (RB), Gretchen Hempen (GH), and Victoria Crawford (VC). Terri Hellwig (TH) arrived after several minutes.
2. BD gave a report on curriculum priorities she has noted:
 - a. In Core Knowledge curriculum, no resources are provided in the subjects of reading and math. For this reason, it is very important to take a complete inventory of resources each teacher uses in these subjects and find out what they are lacking.
 - b. In grades 2, 3, 4 and 5, the teachers need reading resources to prepare the students for TAKS.
 - c. EnVision training this week was very helpful for teachers but more math resources are needed in some classes.
 - d. Need to strongly consider leveling classes for next school year as there are no legal prohibitions against doing so and because it would likely benefit students all along ability spectrum.
3. GH reported need for more manipulatives. Also need to investigate why we have not been able to access the technology component for EnVision math.
4. RB reported on Junior High needs
 - a. Need science supplementation.
 - b. History—Core Knowledge text alone is inadequate. Need to add resources.
 - c. Lost Tools of Writing. Will begin use in spring and RB will assist Ms. Counter in the program's use for 5th grade.
5. LB spoke with Region 4 regarding gifted and talented program. Cost very high and reimbursement from the state is very low. We will further research. VC is checking with Harmony Charters regarding operation of their gifted program.
6. Money Management class will begin next 9 weeks for 7th graders, using Dave Ramsey curriculum.
7. BD is considering departmentalizing third grade so that math and science is taught by one teacher and English and History is taught by the other.
8. For the next meeting, which will be on Monday, Jan. 11, we will discuss teacher curriculum needs, Latin, memorization and recitation elements.
9. Adjourned at 5:30.