



Curriculum Review and New Adoptions for the 2023-24 School Year

St. Junipero Serra Catholic School's commitment to academic excellence and continuous improvement requires regular reviews of our curriculum to ensure that it consistently provides the highest quality education available for our students. This year, we successfully executed a full review and evaluation of our English Language Arts/Literacy (or, "ELA" - for Grades K-5) and Creativity Lab curricula, the results of which we are pleased to share with our school community.

ELA Curriculum (Kindergarten through Grade Five)

In collaboration with our teachers, administrators and members of our Parent Advisory Curriculum Committee, we conducted a thorough study of our current program and how it compares to other competitive programs. An important part of this process was determining the most important needs of our students. To that end, we established the following goals for our 2023-24 ELA program:

1. Compatible with the Catholic faith
2. Meets the needs of all students regardless of ELA placement level (grade level, small group, advanced and advanced plus)
3. An all-encompassing program including phonics, literacy, grammar, vocabulary, spelling, and writing
4. Provides differentiation activities that are easily accessed by students and teachers
5. Provides an easily accessed digital platform for students and teachers
6. Provides the rigor needed to raise reading test scores
7. Includes stories and activities that are interesting to our students

The next step involved selecting the programs we would consider adopting, training the ELA teachers in each of them, and then piloting those programs to evaluate their alignment with our established goals. ELA teachers involved in the piloting process submitted their comprehensive analyses to the review committee, which included their assessment and survey data. The programs that were selected for evaluation are as follows:

- *Into Reading* by Houghton Mifflin
- *Wonders 23* by McGraw-Hill
- SAVVAS *myView*
- *Read Side by Side* (Grades 3-5)
- *Benchmark Advance*

As a result of our extensive research, evaluation and collaboration, we are pleased to announce we will adopt *Into Reading* by Houghton Mifflin for the 2023-24 school year, as the ELA curriculum for Kindergarten through Grade Four. Copies of this program's books and materials are now available for perusal in our library during regular school hours.

For Grade Five, it was determined that the current curriculum, *Reading Wonders*, is still the superior program for their grade level. As such, Grade Five will be staying with the current curriculum for the upcoming school year.

Creativity Lab Curriculum

The Creativity Lab teachers and administration analyzed our current STEAM curriculum, *Creative Learning Systems*, and a possible new STEAM curriculum, *Project Lead the Way*, for the 2023-24 school year. An in-depth look at *Project Lead the Way’s* curriculum scope, sequence, and activities (which included visits to other *Project Lead the Way* labs), determined that the *Creative Learning Systems* curriculum was far superior. As such, we will continue with the *Creative Learning Systems* curriculum in our Creativity labs.

Planned Curriculum Review Schedule

We will continue annual curriculum assessments next year, starting with Religion. Please see the timeline below, which details our schedule of curriculum reviews from now through the 2028-2029 school year:

	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29
ELA (Lower Grades)	Review curriculum	Adopt new curriculum					
Creativity Lab	Review curriculum	Adopt new curriculum					
Religion		Review curriculum	Adopt new curriculum				
Science			Review curriculum	Adopt new curriculum			
Math				Review curriculum	Adopt new curriculum		
Social Studies					Review curriculum	Adopt new curriculum	
ELA (Upper Grades)						Review curriculum	Adopt new curriculum

*Please note: This timeline is subject to change at the discretion of the administration if necessary.