



Inspiring and Empowering Every Charger, Every Day!

Dr. Carrie Mugridge

Curriculum and Assessment Updates - September 2023

Curriculum

● Amplify

The middle school teachers are thrilled and delighted with the Amplify curriculum. They've been witnessing marked progress in their students, particularly in the realm of writing. November 6th will be their third and final training with the company.

Open Court

Teachers are immersing themselves in the Open Court Curriculum and beginning to gain proficiency in its daily instructional procedures and routines. They have successfully finished their initial training session and have two more sessions scheduled for the remainder of the year.

Math

Bridges is off to a robust beginning. In November, we're excited to welcome Janis, our Bridges Consultant, who will be joining us at OAC for two days. Each day, both teachers and students are growing in confidence and becoming increasingly comfortable with this curriculum.

EnVision

The implementation of EnVision Math for grades 4 and 5 is progressing smoothly. Teachers are becoming increasingly at ease with the resource, and students are exhibiting greater confidence in tackling the challenging aspects of problem-solving presented by the curriculum.

HMH Science Dimensions

Middle school teachers have developed a strong comfort level with the curriculum and the online component of the resource. On the other hand, high school teachers are in need of more guidance, but they are steadily gaining confidence with each passing day. We will persist in providing assistance to teachers as they learn this new resource.

High Qualified Mentors

Effective mentoring benefits both new teachers and students. A 2017 study by SRI Education revealed that when novice teachers receive consistent high-quality mentoring, their students achieve significant academic gains, with an extra two to four months of learning in reading and two to five months in math compared to peers without such mentoring.

In response to this research and staff feedback, we're launching the "Highly Qualified Mentors" initiative for the upcoming school year. Each school has selected 12 mentors with a natural talent for guiding and nurturing new teachers, offering structured sessions to boost confidence, address questions, and provide essential guidance. To support this initiative, we've secured three full-day training sessions led by a licensed professional coach, with two days already completed, equipping our mentors with immediate coaching tools.

Reference: <https://www.edutopia.org/article/qualities-exceptional-mentor-teachers/>

TASN

Our next TASN meeting is scheduled for October 12. Our agenda for the day includes how a master schedule impacts MTSS, role of curriculum & assessments in MTSS, importance of intentionality in planning for professional development, and application of fidelity expectations throughout district systems.

- District Priorities

- Rigor - Math and ELA (Student Achievement)

- Instruction (Staff retention)

- CTE/PS

- SEL

Assessment

Practice State Assessments, also known as Interim Assessments, are available from October 2nd to October 13th. Teachers use these assessments for various purposes, such as introducing students to the testing format, providing practice opportunities, and using them as formative assessments to inform their instruction. Notably, John Hattie's research on Visible Learning highlights the substantial positive impact of practice tests, demonstrating a high effect size.