



2016-2017

**Freeport School
District 145**

Key Priorities
And
Professional
Learning
Opportunities

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Believe in the Change!

Message from the Department of Curriculum and Instruction

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The goal for 2016-17 is to develop or identify clear, consistent, coherent and well-articulated curriculums that are implemented uniformly and equitably across all schools in the Freeport School District. These curriculums will be driven by the national standards, and will reflect the skills and habits of mind needed for 21st century learners to be globally competitive.

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction will continue to focus on aligning the Instructional System. The elements of a *Standard's Based Instructional System* includes: research based and reliable assessments, safety nets, high quality instruction, instructional materials, technology, and ongoing research on the new national standards. Alignment of these elements are essential in order to continue to see student growth and to stabilize the curriculums across all content areas. The Department of Curriculum and Instruction will continue to focus on providing teachers with high quality and focused professional learning.

During 2016-17, we will continue to build on the curriculum initiatives from 2015-16. We will implement the new Matrix for 21st Century Teaching and Learning. The Matrix for 21st Century Teaching and Learning clearly defines what a 21st century classroom should look like and will serve as a framework for teachers and administrators. We will also move into year two of the elementary reading curriculum review and begin reviewing K-5 elementary mathematics, 6-12 science, 6-12 Social Studies, and continue to focus on our assessment practices and the implementation of NWEA MAP. We will ensure that there is a laser-like focus on data to inform instructional decisions and measure student growth. All curriculum initiatives will continue to be aligned with the district's instructional priorities and the strategic plan.

Lastly, the Department of Curriculum and Instruction will continue to provide the Board of Education, parents and community with regular updates regarding our instructional programs, curriculum, and assessment efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Duane R. Meighan, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

Standards Based Instructional System



District Assessment

Freeport School district is committed to establishing and maintaining a consistent, reliable and valid assessments system which are essential to align any school system's instructional system. Assessments help teachers make important decisions about student needs, measure student growth and help leaders evaluate the effectiveness of curriculums and programs. The first focus of assessments for 2016-2017 will be the implementation of NWEA MAP in Grades K-11. Professional Learning will occur throughout the year for administrators and teachers to ensure staff can read, understand, and use the MAP reports to impact student achievement. MAP reports will be used to differentiate within the classroom and to provide more targeted assistance to students. The second focus of assessments will be the professional learning of Authentic Tasks within all grade levels with the implementation of Defined STEM in grades K-12. Authentic tasks ask students to perform a real-life task that applies their learning in a new and different context helping students to retain learned knowledge. The assessment committee will continue to meet quarterly to support the Freeport School Districts assessment model. In addition, an assessment calendar will be published annually containing all assessments required by the district or state. Freeport School District strives to ensure that assessments are consistent across all of our schools and that staff members are accountable to upholding the district assessment philosophy.

KIDS

Freeport School District will be implementing the state required Kids Individual Development Survey in 2016-2017. Teachers will be using the KIDS reporting system to collect data on school readiness for all kindergarten students at the beginning of the school year. The 14 measures of the KIDS assessment will include readiness in the areas of Language and Literacy Development, Cognitive Math Development, Social Emotional Development, and Approaches to Learning.

Secondary Math Curriculum Review

Freeport School District Middle and High School Math teachers will receive professional learning over the summer on the new mathematics curriculum, College Preparatory Mathematics (CPM). During 2016-2017, math teachers will receive on-going professional learning to build capacity of all teachers to confidently teach the mathematical content, plan purposeful lessons, assess understanding and give effective feedback to students. In addition to professional learning sessions, College Preparatory Mathematics instructional coaches will come into our classrooms to provide critical feedback and support during the implementation process. This initiative is a result of the Math Study Group work in 2015-2016.

K-5 Math Curriculum Review

Freeport School District will continue its efforts to review the math curriculum. With the implementation of a new middle school and high school math program, efforts will now focus on elementary grades K-5. During 2016-2017, a math committee will be formed to evaluate the current K-5 math program and best pedagogical practices. The committee will examine best instructional practices as identified by the new math standards and 8 mathematical practices to determine what instructional materials will be needed to support the 6-12 math program.

Technology Department Focus

The members of the Technology Department will continue to work on a sustainable approach to technology integration that supports the district's strategic plan. The department will continue to support the TPACK (The Intersection of Technology, Pedagogy and Content Knowledge) and its implementation in district classrooms. The Technology Department will be expanding the implementation of Google Apps for Education. This initiative will support daily operations such as email, appointment calendars, and file storage. Instructional technology initiatives will include support for Google Classroom, Google Sites, and student Gmail. The department will continue to review policies, procedures, and practices to best support evolving trends in technology and instruction. The department is committed to refining and strengthening student learning, and preparing our students to become globally competitive.

Elementary Reading

During the 2016-17 school year we will be piloting two reading programs, with the recommendation of a new reading curriculum being finalized during the second semester. The new program and resources will be implemented in grades K-6 beginning in the fall of 2017. The Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment program will also be in place. The results from these assessments will help teachers to plan for individualized instruction. Efforts in the areas of Close Reading and Guided Reading will continue, as we work to strengthen literacy in all areas of the curriculum including social studies, science and the arts. District 145 staff will continue integrating the New ELA Learning Standards (CCSS), with the realization that the skills, content knowledge, habits and attitudes addressed in the standards, are minimal expectations for our students. There are no limits to what our students are capable of achieving. It is the responsibility of our staff members to create a culture and climate where all students not only strive to realize their potential, but are able to own their learning.

K-12 Art Curriculum Review

With the amendment of state standards for Fine Arts, Freeport School District will be reviewing the current art curriculum and exploring ways to further refine our approach to Art and Music education. The new standards focus on developing student skills for the 21st century in creating, performing, presenting, producing, responding, and connecting to art. The new standards will go into effect for the 2017-18 school year.

21st Century Learning

The Freeport School District will continue to focus on inquiry, project based learning, and short focused research during the upcoming school year. Greater emphasis will be placed on cooperation, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity, which are critical skills needed to be successful in both college and the workforce. This past year, Freeport School District staff worked to develop a 21st Century Learning Matrix. During the upcoming school years, the matrix will be incorporated in classrooms throughout the district. The focus will be centered on the key components of inquiry based learning, project based learning, and short focused research, which will help to support high quality teaching learning. Shifting the responsibility of learning, from teachers to students, will support good teaching, and will help to prepare our students to be globally competitive. Lastly, we will continue to promote International Baccalaureate training at the Jones Farrar Magnet School. This professional learning provides a model which focuses on Inquiry Based Learning.

One Vision...One District

As we move forward to align the instructional system and focus on continuing to fill the gaps related to the pockets of excellence in the school system, we believe that it is critical that all elementary schools function as “one elementary school” and all middle schools function as “one middle school”. With that said, this concept requires not only the alignments of curriculums, programs, and assessments, but also collaboration efforts with teachers, support staff, and building administrators with a central focus of improving teaching and learning for all students. As Stephen Covey said, “The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing”. In this case, the main thing must be high academic achievement for all our students. During the 2016-17 school year, we will continue to bring grade level teams and departments together to focus on District curriculum initiatives and to engage in high quality, through provoking, and focused professional learning.

Professional Development Wednesday Structure

The structure of Professional Development Wednesday's is as follows on a monthly basis:

1st Wednesday = Principal-Directed {This time should be used by principals to improve use of the new unit overviews and plans, review school-wide learning/discipline data, plan interventions, develop common assessments, discuss an important article, book study, guest speaker, staff-presentations of 21st Century Teaching and Learning practices, using a data analysis template driven by NWEA/MAP to differentiate instruction and to improve teaching and learning. It is recommended that this time be used for professional learning related to district curriculum initiatives.}

2nd Wednesday = Student Learning Data {Follow the district process}

3rd Wednesday = Teacher-Directed {This time should be used for improving use of the unit overviews and plans, common lesson planning, analysis of student learning data and student work, to develop common assessments, collaborative work, grade level planning, team planning, using a data analysis template driven by NWEA/MAP to differentiate instruction and to improve teaching and learning.}

4th Wednesday = Student Learning Data {Follow the district process}

***5th Wednesday** {September } = Teacher-Directed {This time should be used for improving use of the new unit overviews and plans, common lesson planning, analysis of student learning data, develop common assessments, collaborative work, grade level planning, team planning, using a data analysis template driven by NWEA/MAP to differentiate instruction and to improve teaching and learning.}

In addition to the Professional Development Wednesday structure, the district has scheduled a variety of professional development activities related to our continuous growth and strategic plans. The schedule of professional development activities is further described below. Highlighted activities are those professional development activities that are aligned with our continuous growth plan but will not occur on a late start Wednesday.

Professional Development Schedule

Summer/Fall 2016

Date	Facilitator	Location	Topic
August 31, 2016	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
September 7, 2016	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
September 14, 2016	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
September 20, 2016	Early Release Day	All Schools	6-12 Equity PreK-K KIDS 1-12 Matrix for 21 st Century Learning 1-5 Ten Marks
September 21, 2016	Teacher-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
September 28, 2016	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
October 5, 2016	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
October 7, 2016	District Institute	All Schools	CPM, Equity, KIDS, DefinedSTEM, Math Shifts, Close Reading/Guided Reading, C3 Framework, NWEA Map, NGSS, Fountas and Pinnell, Progress monitoring Aimsweb/Skills Navigator
October 12, 2016	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
October 19, 2016	Teacher-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
October 26, 2016	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
November 2, 2016	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process

November 9, 2016	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
November 10, 2016	Early-Release Day	All Schools	6-12 CPM K-12 Matrix for 21 st Century Learning K-5 Math Shifts (ROE) 6-12 NGSS, CS, ELA, etc (Instructional Shifts)
November 16, 2016	Teacher-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
November 30, 2016	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
December 7, 2016	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
December 13, 2016	Early Release Day	All Schools	K-12 Equity
December 20, 2016	Teacher-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process

Spring 2017

Date	Facilitator	Location	Topic
January 4, 2017	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
January 11, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
January 13, 2017	District Institute	All Schools	CPM, , DefinedSTEM, Math Shifts, ELA – Turn it in, ELA Instructional Shifts, C3 Framework, NWEA Map, NGSS, Close Reading/Guided Reading
January 18, 2017	Teacher-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
January 25, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
February 1, 2017	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process

February 8, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
February 14, 2017	Early Release Day	All Schools	K-12 Matrix for 21 st Century Teaching/Learning K-12 Equity
February 15, 2017	Teacher-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
February 22, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
March 1, 2017	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
March 8, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
March 14, 2017	Early Release Day	All Schools	6-12 CPM (Math Dept) K-12 Defined STEM K-12 Matrix for 21 st Century Teaching/Learning
March 15, 2017	Teacher-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
March 29, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
April 5, 2017	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
April 12, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
April 19, 2017	Teacher-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
April 26, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
April 27, 2017	Early Release Day	All Schools	PreK-K – KIDS 1-12 Google Apps for Education K-12 NWEA MAP
May 3, 2017	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
May 10, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process

May 17, 2017	Teacher-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
May 18, 2017	Early Release Day	All Schools	K-12 Defined STEM K-5 Guided Reading 6-12 Close Reading
May 31, 2017	Student Learning Data	All Schools	Follow District Process
June 7, 2017	Principal-Directed	All Schools	Follow District Process
June 9, 2017	District Institute	All Schools	K-12 Curriculum and Instruction Preview of 2017-2018

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