

Newton Public Schools Curriculum Plan

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OBJECTIVES

1. Curriculum overview (past, present and future)
2. Share Newton Public School's Curriculum Vision and Mission Statement
3. Understand the 2016-2020 Curriculum Plan

PAST PRACTICES

- Approved Tri-District Curriculum for grades K-8 (2009-2012)
- Developed benchmark assessments, unit plans and student learning objectives (2012-2015)
- Three year cycle for courses: review, revise, rewrite, approve, and adopt

PRESENT

- Curriculum is revised every three years but many teachers change unit plans/lesson plans yearly
- Capturing all of the changes in real time is difficult
- Multiple teachers in a subject area
- Collaboration tool needed
- Auditing progress against standards is cumbersome

FUTURE

- Take our curriculum from 1.0 to 2.0
- New District Curriculum Plan
- Ways for all teachers to collaborate using one efficient method
- Rubicon Atlas

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

Vision: Curriculum is part of the daily practice for teachers and students

Mission statement:

The Board of Education will approve curriculum that asks essential questions, defines enduring understandings, aligns with state standards, and defines clear student learning objectives. Teachers will design instructional elements for implementation in the classroom based on board approved curriculum, such as learning activities, assessments, and strategies for differentiated instruction.

BOARD APPROVED CURRICULUM

Unit 5



Essential Questions

Sample Essential Questions

* What are the characteristics of good research?

* What is the research process?

* How is a topic chosen and narrowed?

How does one develop a thesis statement?

What is the difference between a research paper and a report?

What are the required elements of a research paper?

BOARD APPROVED CURRICULUM

Unit 5

- What we want students to think about.
- Focus of a course or unit of study

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BOARD APPROVED CURRICULUM

Enduring Understandings



Students will understand

- * Researchers gather and critique information on a topic from a variety of sources for specific purposes.
- * A research topic must be focused.
- * A thesis statement is a point of view that can be supported and proven.

BOARD APPROVED CURRICULUM

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BOARD APPROVED CURRICULUM

What students will be able to do

Knowledge and Skills ⓘ

- * Generate and narrow a topic
- * Develop a thesis statement
- * Use self- selected evidence, including primary and secondary sources, to support ideas

TEACHER IMPLEMENTATION

- Learning activities
- Assessments
- Strategies for differentiated instruction

ENHANCE STUDENT LEARNING

- Uniform and sequential
- Adjusted based on learners in the classroom
- Consistent standards and learning objectives covered

WHY DO WE NEED RUBICON ATLAS

- Collaborate in real time
- Ensure standards are met and assessed
- Links assessments and learning activities
- Track alignment to standards
- Vehicle to make the review and revision process more efficient and informed
- Establish consistency of alignment
- Easy to pool resources

TRAINING

1. Curriculum Leadership Team (CLT)
2. Live online training session
3. Online training sessions
4. Turnkey training from CLT to teachers
5. Onsite and offsite training

WHEN WILL THIS WORK BE DONE AND WHO WILL DO IT?

- Professional Learning Communities (PLC)
- Comp time
- Meeting times
- Summer

PHASE I (End date June 2016)

- Creating a district curriculum plan (2015-2020)
- Board approved curriculum in Rubicon Atlas
- Identify the Curriculum Leadership Team (CLT)
- Rubicon training for CLT and administration
- Identify departmental paths for Phase II

PHASE II (End date June 2019)

Phase II a continuous cycle until 2019

- Teacher training in Atlas
- Each curricular department will have yearly goals
- Teachers add the following to the implemented curriculum:
 - Learning objectives developed for all courses
 - Activities
 - Assessments
 - Resources
 - Feedback
 - Special education and ELL modifications
- Differentiate different course levels
- Board approved curriculum on the Atlas Public Site
- Principals will track each department's progress

CONTINUOUS CYCLE (End date June 2020)

Continuous Cycle

- ❑ Teachers review the implemented curriculum for revisions
- ❑ Teachers finalize their feedback to the approved curriculum
- ❑ Teacher feedback reviewed and vetted by the CLT to inform revision to the approved curriculum

MANDATED REVISIONS

Mandated revisions are made based on state deadlines.

Examples are :

- New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS, formerly the Common Core State Standards and NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards)
- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

COST FOR RUBICON ATLAS LICENSE

- The annual license fee for the use of the Atlas Curriculum Management System:
 - \$3,375 (Dec. 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)
 - \$5,250 (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017)

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS (NGSS)

Dimensions that form the standards

Cross Cutting Concepts

- Helps students explore connections in our domains of science
 - Physical Science, Life Science, Earth and Space Science and Engineering Design
 - cause and effect

Science and Engineering Practices

- what scientist do to investigate the natural world and what engineers do to design and build systems.
 - inquiry

Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Key ideas in science that have a broad importance within or across multiple science or engineering disciplines
 - Relate to life experiences
 - teachable and learnable over

REVISIONS OF COMMON CORE

- Review is complete
- All content areas are reapproved as the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
- Awaiting guidance and training from the state
- Implementation dates (TBD)