

Curriculum Initiatives 2007-2008

On Time Graduation Initiatives

- WASL tracking
- Credit Tracking
- Scheduling
- Staff/Teacher Education on Graduation Requirements
- Role of Counselors
- Electronic Transcript Evaluation
- WASL Not Met/Credit analysis and planning by Student

English Language Learners

Continuation of GLAD training for elementary and middle school classroom teachers

Literacy Reviews

- Grades K-2 Phonics and Spelling
– October through February
- Grades 3-5 Spelling
– November through March
- Grades K-5 Handwriting
– October through February

Literacy Initiatives 2007-2008

Elementary

- Literacy Review will begin in October in the areas of phonics, spelling and handwriting.
- A writing prompt calendar is available in the Elementary Literacy Shared Folder.
- K-5 writing annotations are nearly finished.
- A revised Kindergarten writing rubric is being created.
- Writing Module Classes will begin in October; Writing Modules are available for school use anytime.
- Writing Cadre meetings are held to investigate best practices in writing.
- Writing classes will be offered at primary and intermediate levels.
- Continued training for DRA is provided.
- A bank of optional reading assessments, coached and independent, are available for grades 3 – 5 based on the Reading Targets Calendar.
- Guided Reading, Daily 5, and Para-Pro classes are offered.
- Monthly meetings of Reading Cadre are held for professional development; a reading specialist focus is on Purposeful Talk and Literacy Coaching.
- Website Resources are being updated

Middle and High Schools

- The Reading Target Calendar is available and being differentiated and refined according to GLEs.
- A new District Writing Focus Plan has been rolled out by Instructional Facilitators in Literacy
- Writing Modules are being developed to support the District Writing Focus Plan.
- Website Resources are being updated.
- Ongoing Curriculum Map revision to address WASL needs and inclusion of all GLEs continues.
- The articulation of honors materials has begun.
- Read 180 is implemented in all for regular ed., spec. ed. & ELL. Support for Read 180: IFLs in buildings, District Users' Group Meetings, County Users' Meetings, Scholastic Training & individual support
- An Instructional Facilitator has been hired for Support Classes.
- A Research GLEs Document, K-12, was created by teacher-librarians to provide scaffolding of research skills.
- Articulation meetings will take place between grades 5-6 & 8-9.
- Instructional Facilitators in secondary buildings are available for lesson studies, faculty presentations, workshops, modeled teaching, one-on-one support, training on scoring, reading strategies, data entry, etc.
- IFLs will focus professional development on Writing Strategies as well as Vocabulary Acquisition and in-service staff in these areas.
- Updated, teacher-friendly Annotated Scoring Guides have been created.
- Writing Calibration training will be offered.
- Grade-level Conventions Documents are available.
- A Writing Class based on Kelly Gallagher's *Teaching Adolescent Writers* will be offered.

High School-Specific Goals

- Work has begun to adjust curriculum maps to address needs of students who have met standard on WASL; rigor will be emphasized for materials & expectations
- High School Literacy Leaders Cadre meets across district to discuss topics of shared interest and need.

Teacher Librarians

- Teacher librarians have created a research document based on reading, writing & social studies GLEs. They are creating lessons to coincide with the research goals, and they will work with students and teachers to scaffold these skills K-12.

Math Projects

Math Facilitators

- Training
- Oversight

Assessment System

Common Assessments

- Investigations
- CMP
- Carnegie Learning
- Discovering Series

Technology Implementation

- Algebra 1 Grade 8
- Math Whizz Special Education
- COWS

Special Education – Mathematics Update

Social Studies

Secondary:

- Learning about new materials and technology
- 6th Grade Content professional development
- Librarian Database training
- Unpacking Standards
- Preparation for State Classroom Based Assessment training

Elementary:

- Possible 5th Grade Curriculum Review and Adoption
- Preparation for State Classroom Based Assessments

Visual Arts

Secondary:

- Unpacking Standards
- Middle School Art Show
- High School Art Show
- Preparation for State Classroom Based Assessments
- Vertical Alignment

Elementary:

- Art Docent Program growth
- Elementary Art Show
- Partnership with Arts Council of Snohomish County for Professional Development

Science Projects

The first three initiatives should be related closely to the school's SIP goal.

1. Common Assessments.

We will have at least one common assessment for every content area by the end of the year (K-12). These tests will be integrated with the pacing guides. They will be both summative and formative in nature. They will be summative because they will give a final grade in some part of a content area. The formative aspect stems from comparisons between students that will allow us to reflect on how our approach/curriculum addresses student understanding of our science standards.

2. Pacing guides

In most science content areas pacing guides are being developed. In addition to making sure that enough time is allotted to each lesson, these guides give a coherent conceptual flow as well as an assessment strategy. Further, non-standard areas are eliminated if they do not support the conceptual progression.

3. Embedded Formative Assessments

Formative assessments give us valuable information on how our students are progressing toward a complete understanding of our standards. You may plan many different forms of formative assessments in your content area and SIP. One type is the Evidence of Student Learning (EOS) program. We discussed this at the meeting, but I feel that it is still unclear. Here is a good overview: <http://www.uwlax.edu/sotl/lsp/teachingandobserving.htm> This will be done at the middle school level. It will also be done in high school, but to a slightly lesser degree.

1. Content Courses

There is a strong need for professional development in content area in which teachers are teaching, but they have limited exposure. These programs will probably be web based, such as sci-pacs.

2. Initial Use Training

If a teacher has not taught a content area, we are committed to providing training as well as ongoing support.

3. Ongoing Implementation

We would like to have content area meetings as well as grade level meetings. Schools may want to integrate this into their SIP.

4. Subject Area integration

This is more of a focus at the elementary level; however, in addition to integrating math into our curriculum, we use notebooks that supports many different curriculum areas.

5. Environmental Education

At some point environmental education will be included in every science content area if it is not already.

6. Chemical Hygiene/Classroom Safety

Surveys are being done on equipment needed for each content area so that science can be done in a safe environment.

7. Adoption/Modification

Modifications on curriculum is being done through the pacing guides. Adoption is complete at the middle school level. High school will be adopting a third year science curriculum through NACL.