



CURRICULUM DEPARTMENT - September 4, 2009

Tracy Stevenson-Olson
Director of Curriculum

Weekly Update: September 8, 2009

Dr. Sharon Ballard
Science/Health Coordinator

Physics First

There are several 8th and 9th grade teachers who are new to Physics First. The following workshops have been set up for these new teachers or those wishing to have a “refresher”. Please tell any teachers they are welcome to attend. Chris Magee, who is an experienced teacher and CPO trainer, will lead these workshops at Eisenhower.

- 8th Grade-Tuesday, Sept 15th from 4-6 pm
- 9th Grade-Thursday, Sept 17th from 4-6 pm

High School Science

This summer, the curriculum and power standards were revised for Zoology, Earth Science-AOM, Geology, and Anatomy and Physiology. The order of the units was revised for Biology. Committees started the process of working on Essential Questions and Project ideas for Biology, Chemistry, Conceptual Chemistry and Physical Science. I have distributed all these materials to the teachers in those subject areas. Please email me if there is anyone I missed that still needs them.

Lab Safety

I have been trying to get around to any new teachers, make sure they know the curriculum/power standards and update them on lab safety. Please let me know if there is anyone who still needs assistance.

High School Health

The new Health books (one per student) should be in your buildings. We had great attendance at the training on the new materials and technology resources in August. The curriculum hasn't changed but teachers are excited about using these updated materials.

Deborah Bailey
Coordinator, Library Media Services

The certified teacher-librarians meet monthly for training and information to be used for the betterment of the library programs in your buildings. The secondary librarians meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month while the elementary librarians meet the 3rd Friday. September meetings: Secondary – September 9 at 11:30; Elementary – September 18 at 12:30. Meetings are held at Library Media Services. I would greatly appreciate it if you allow your librarian to attend these monthly meetings.

Sue Mainville
Elementary Math Coordinator K-5

1. Math Building Contacts- Please send Sue Mainville the name of the person you would like to have as your building contact for math this year. If I do not hear from you, I will use last year's contact.
2. Please inform Tracy Stevenson- Olson if you have Kindergarten classrooms that do NOT have an Every Day Counts Calendar Kit. We provided them to all the Kindergartens in 2007 but there may be some new classrooms where they are still needed.
3. Below is a list of the teachers who are scheduled to attend the New Teachers' Everyday Math Workshops. Please review the list and if you need to add someone or remove them, please email Sue Mainville.

New Teacher Training Everyday Math 2009

Kindergarten September 14, 2009	
<i>Name</i>	<i>School</i>
Luz Mery Saenz	Barbour
Maria Schaffner	Barbour
Veronica Soria	Barbour
Amy Schumann	Ellis
Maria T Garcia	Marsh
Brittney Dunnavan	Walker
Kisha Napper	Walker
Aaron Park	Walker

Grades 1 and 2 September 16, 2009		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>School</i>
Olga Jestafie	2	Barbour
Carrie Hartinger	1	Barbour
Mike Davis	SpEd	Carlson
Sandra Connell	1	Marsh
Monica P. – Lowenthal	1	Marsh
Caroline Jocson	2	Riverdahl
Lupe Nunez	1	Riverdahl
Kris Ferguson	1	West View

Grades 3, 4 and 5 September 10, 2009		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>School</i>
Patti Bachman	4	Barbour
Heather Cyrus	3	Barbour
Julie Edwards	5	Barbour
Katelyn McFadden	4	Kishwaukee
Joe Bruce	4	Lathrop
Ashley Spindler	5	Lathrop
Lisa Bielfeldt	5	Marsh
Eric Llimos	5	Spring Creek

Special Education (Resource) September 22, 2009	
<i>Name</i>	<i>School</i>
Cassandra Glover	Supervisor
Angela Rieke	Supervisor
Lidia Brenya	Barbour
Eric Shave	Beyer/Washington
Melissa Sendra	Carlson
Krysta Tilges	Spring Creek

4. Professional Development: I will be holding monthly workshops focusing on specific math problem solving strategies. The first one is September 9th at 2:45 – 3:45 or 4:00 – 5:00 at Roosevelt, Room 318. Your teachers have received more detailed emailed information. Let me know if you would like me to send you the flyer.
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Diane Fischer
Math Coordinator 6-8

The following teachers attended the Connected Math training, Factors on Monday, Aug. 28:

Amy Blume – Lincoln
Donna Urbin – Flinn
Kellie Kim – Flinn
Scott Harker – Kennedy
Jo Scott – RESA
Robyn Quartetti – RESA
Victor Schoonover – West
Nita Enneking – West

Cathy Morrow
High School Math Coordinator

HS Math

- High School Principals: Professional leave forms for November 4 and November 5's Teacher Leader Cadre trainings involving the graphing calculators will be coming in to your office this month from the following teachers. Each school will be responsible to pay for the substitutes.

Guilford	Auburn
Mark Ellis	Tracy Stephani
Joanna Nelson-Faber	Joe Franklin
Nathan Kirschmann	East
Jefferson	John Zuba
Amy Tanascu	Stephen Brooks
Nicole Nelmark	
Jo-Ann Valdivia	
Brett Carlson	
Kelli Krause	

- Share with the math teachers the ENI summary emailed to you via Tracy Stevenson-Olson.
 - Every student in the high school should have received a calculator letter to purchase one for their own use. Cost \$120.53. Research shows that students who use the graphing calculators in the classroom and at home have a better understanding of mathematical concepts and science topics.
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Kathy Cassioppi
Social Studies Coordinator



Updates for All Levels

- Constitution Day, September 17, 2009 – There are many excellent resources available to facilitate the teaching of the U.S. Constitution. This page on the District's Social Studies website will give ideas for lesson plans and activities for students as they learn about the history and workings of the Constitution of the United States: <http://webs.rps205.com/curriculum/ssandvoc/constitutionday.html>.
- Please access the curriculum guides and maps for Social Studies Grades K-4, 5-8, and 9-12 located on the District Social Studies website: <http://webs.rps205.com/curriculum/ssandvoc/home.html>.

Elementary Update

- I will be contacting principals to arrange meetings with Fifth Grade teachers regarding the curriculum for Social Studies.
- Teachers are strongly encouraged to incorporate Social Studies into the Literacy Block (BLIG), as well as adding Social Studies content to the instructional day.
- Best practices in Social Studies, as well as the curriculum for teaching about Rockford and Illinois, will be the topics for the Grades 3 & 4 Round Table on Tuesday, September 29, at Roosevelt Center, Room 318, from 4:00-5:00 pm. Third and Fourth Grade teachers should email Kathy Cassioppi ASAP at CassioK@rps205.com if they are planning to attend.

Middle School Update

- Looking for a Scope and Sequence for Middle School Social Studies? You can find it at this link: <http://webs.rps205.com/curriculum/ssandvoc/58CGandCM.html>. With curriculum changes in grades 7 & 8, this document will address what is to be taught.
- Best practices in Social Studies, as well as curriculum needs, will be the topics for the Middle School Round Table on Thursday, October 1, at Roosevelt Center, Room 318, from 4:30-5:30 pm. Middle School SS teachers should email Kathy Cassioppi ASAP at CassioK@rps205.com if they are participating.
- Please contact Support to download Glencoe technology components for the new 7th and 8th grade textbooks. Contact Kathy Cassioppi if you require more information.
- Midway Village invites 7th and 8th grade Social Studies and their classes to attend World War II Days on Friday, September 25. Please see the attached flyer to complete and reserve your space for this interactive program. Two sessions are available: 9:45 am – 11:45 am and 12:15 pm – 2:15 pm. The cost is \$5 per student and all adults are complementary. Tours will include stops in the Museum Center, the Village, and campsites in the woods (German camps, Allied camps, Home front activities, Vehicle displays, and behind the lines operations). Please contact Jessica Macdonald at (815) 397-9112 ext. 104 or Jessica.macdonald@midwayvillage.com if you have additional questions.

High School Update

- Monday, September 14, a Pearson Prentice Hall presentation for the new *Magruder's American Government* textbook will be held at Roosevelt, Room 318, from 4:30-6:30 pm. Any teacher who

uses this text for honors or regular American Government is invited to attend. Please email Kathy Cassioppi ASAP at CassioK@rps205.com with intent to participate.

- Thursday, September 24, a Holt presentation for the HS *World Geography Today* textbook will be held at the District Computer Lab in the Administration Building, Room 314, from 4:30-6:30 pm. Any teacher who uses this text for HS World Geography is invited to join this session. Technology will be addressed. Those who plan to attend need to email Kathy Cassioppi ASAP at CassioK@rps205.com. Space is limited.
- World Geography and World Geography curriculum and assessment, as well as best practices in Social Studies will be the topics for the High School Round Table on Monday, October 5, at Roosevelt Center, Room 318, from 4:30-5:30 pm. HS WG and WH SS teachers should email Kathy Cassioppi ASAP at CassioK@rps205.com if they intend to participate.

Shout Out to Teachers!

The following teachers participated in committees and/or workshops:

<i>Grades 5-8 Social Studies Curriculum Development Committee</i> <i>July 28 and/or July 29, 2009:</i>		
Dawn Granath	Beyer	Grade 5
Teresa Turner	Bloom	Grade 5
Lisa Peterson-Doll	Brookview	Grade 5
Theresa Bartsch	Johnson	Grade 5
Erika Montoya-Pasillas	Nelson	Grade 5
Jodi Severson	Summerdale	Grade 5
Christine Cox	Flinn	Grade 6
Kathy Pampe	Flinn	Grade 6
Doris Skaar	Flinn	Grade 6
Jennifer Mandera	Lincoln	Grade 6
Kathy Miller	Washington Gifted	Grade 6
Juliette Kaplanes	Lincoln	Grade 7
Pam Brooks	RESA	Grade 7
Violet Johnson	RESA	Grade 7
Jean Larsen	Flinn	Grade 8
Sally Wallace	Kennedy	Grade 8
Jim Webb	Lincoln	Grade 8
Cris Russey	Washington Gifted	Grade 8
<i>FOLDABLES – A Reading and Writing Strategy for the Social Studies Classroom</i> <i>August 17, 2009</i>		
Jessica Berg	RESA	Grade 6
Pam Brooks	RESA	Grade 7
Jennifer Fuller	Kennedy	Grade 6
Connie Grod	RESA	Grade 8
Juliette Kaplanes	Lincoln	Grade 7
Julie Kegel	West	Grade 7
Jean Larsen	Flinn	Grade 8
Darryl Layne	Fresh Start/Fresh View	Grades 6-8
Paul Levi	Kennedy	Grade 7
Heather Politic	Lincoln	Special Ed

Sherri Schindler	Kennedy	Grade 8
Timothy Walker	Fresh Start/Fresh View	Grades 6-8
Sally Wallace	Kennedy	Grade 8
Jim Webb	Lincoln	Grade 8
David Winn	Eisenhower	Grade 7
<i>Make Student Learning Easier with CRISS!</i> <i>August 17, 2009</i>		
Juliette Kaplanes	Lincoln	Grade 7
Jean Larsen	Flinn	Grade 8
Paul Levi	Kennedy	Grade 7
Heather Politic	Lincoln	Special Ed
Christina Rizzio	Jefferson	HS
Sally Wallace	Kennedy	Grade 8
<i>Social Studies Technology Training for New Glencoe Users</i> <i>August 18, 2009</i>		
Jim Ambruoso	Kennedy	Grade 8
Pam Brooks	RESA	Grade 7
Jennifer Fuller	Kennedy	Grade 6
Mary Gummow	Flinn	Grade 7
Marian Jones	Kennedy	Grade 7
Jean Larsen	Flinn	Grade 8
Darryl Layne	Fresh Start/Fresh View	Grades 6-8
Christina Rizzio	Jefferson	HS
Sherri Schindler	Kennedy	Grade 8
Sally Wallace	Kennedy	Grade 8
Jim Webb	Lincoln	Grade 8
David Winn	Eisenhower	Grade 8

Space is limited!

To reserve your place, FAX this form to us on or before **Sept. 15, 2009**

FAX#: (815) 397-9156

Midway Village

Rockford IL

Presents

World War II Days Field Trip - Sept. 25, 2009

Teacher Last Name _____ First _____ Grade Level _____

School Name _____ Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Sign me up for: ___ **Session One** – 9:45am – 11:45am School FAX: _____

___ **Session Two** – 12:15pm – 2:15pm

Total number of students attending _____. Total adults attending _____.

Special needs? Please describe:

Total cost (# of students x \$5). All adults are free. = _____

Above amount due on or before September 19, 2009.

Tours will include stops in our Museum Center, the Village, and campsites in the woods.

Representative stops will be:

German Camps Displays

Allied Camps Displays

Homefront activities

Vehicle Displays

Behind the lines operations

Any questions about the above information? Please contact Jessica MacDonald at (815) 397-9112 ext. 104 or jessica.macdonald@midwayvillage.com.

We will FAX or email a **confirmation** of your registration and a **complete map and schedule** before your visit.

Technology Related Information - for all staff :

- **Technology Training Schedule** - <http://train.rps205.com/schedule.htm>
(E-mail, GradeQuick, Creating Teacher Websites, Elementary Report Card, The Internet for Teachers, Inspiration, Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher, Using the Elmos, Interactive PowerPoint Activities, Mail Merge)
- **Microsoft Office Work at Home License** - <http://webs.rps205.com/departments/it/office.html>
- **Entering Technology Work Orders** (This is **NOT** a capability of the Technology Coordinator in the Curriculum Department) You must specify your building, room number and host name along with an explanation of the work to be done. See <http://webs.rps205.com/departments/it/help.html> for details
- **Technology Policies** – Personal computer equipment that is allowed/prohibited, donated Equipment, installing hardware/software, The Internet Filter, Teacher Websites
<http://webs.rps205.com/departments/it/policies.html>
- **Curriculum Website Collection** – Suggested websites aligned to K-8 curricular areas
<http://schools.rps205.com/curriculum/>
- **GradeQuick** for home – See <http://webs.rps205.com/curriculum/newteachers/gradequick.html> for installing it at home. Note backup and Vista notes. If prompted for User name and Registration **OR** to get a CD e-mail Tim McFadden at mcfaddt@rps205.com (To have GradeQuick installed at School enter a work order <see above>)
- **Dell Employee Purchase Program** - See <http://webs.rps205.com/departments/it/dell.html> NOTE: there is usually a week between the start of a month and the posting of the flyer. Password to open flyer is **forestcity** (no caps no spaces)
- **Password protected documents** –
 - The general password for protected documents for teachers is **forestcity**.
 - Administrators, SpEd, Early Childhood, and health professionals should contact their supervisor for their specific passwords if the above password does not open the document.
- **Spam** – The district blocks 90% of the e-mail entering the district as SPAM. E-mail Notices with the subject **Barracuda Spam & Virus Firewall [netadmin@rps205.com]** indicate there is spam in your spam folder. If you are at a school computer, you can open this and review the messages (some may be offensive). You cannot access this from home!
- **Network Share** – teachers not having a shred drive may request one by entering a work order (see above). If your share is directed to a building you are no longer in, you may enter a work order to have that share moved to your new assignment, again by entering a work order.

Carl Armato, Athletic Director

- There is an important convention (IAPHERD) Illinois Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance to be held at the Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Illinois on November 19th & 20th. Many teachers would like to attend this convention to improve their skills through these professional development training sessions. In the past they have found difficulty in getting released from their building(s) because if a sub was unavailable, the Principal would either deny their request, or in some cases call them back while they were in route because the classroom teachers use PE period as “*their time*” to plan. This is the one time they would like to be released without any restraints. Any consideration you might give this matter would be greatly appreciated.
- I would like to send out a memo informing all Elementary level Principals and PE teachers we recently issued a \$50.00 allowance in an account to be used specifically for physical education equipment & materials. This money was generated from the success of the 2009 golf outing.

Kathryn Engel-Terasaki
K-12 Fine Arts Coordinator

ELEMENTARY:

- Reminder:

REACH FOR THE STARS date for 4th graders: March 18, 2009.

MIDDLE:

- A couple of performing arts staff have not received confirmation that their application for their differential was received. Is there a “next step” that they should implement?
- Pilot year for Portfolios is done. This year is full implementation. You should see evidence of this implementation in the room somewhere.

HIGH SCHOOL:

- Reminder: **All-Star Art Exhibit** dates. November 15 – December 4th. The official Opening with Reception is Thursday November 19, 2009. Location to be announced.
- Pilot year for Portfolios is done. This year is full implementation. You should see evidence of this implementation in the room somewhere.
- A couple of performing arts staff have not received confirmation that their application for their differential was received. Is there a “next step” that they should implement?