

Fairfield City Schools

Race to the Top

News You Can Use

Transparency is our Goal

A Monthly Newsletter
Issue 3 - December

Standards and Assessments (Area B)

Monthly professional development (PD) activities continue throughout our district. In December, hour two of the standards roll-out (Rigor in the Classroom) was completed in almost every building. Those buildings that completed hour two in December will resume the Marzano book study in January.

The following grade levels or departments have started “digging deeper” into the common core curriculum standards or revised standards: all teachers in Pre-K, Kindergarten, first and second grade (English Language Arts and Math); teachers in grades one through six (ELA specifically writing and language); social studies teachers in grades 4 through 8, 9-10 and 12.

Some of the small groups have also started meeting to create units around big ideas, sequence units on a curriculum calendar/map, create assessments and write the course of study for Board adoption. The other small groups will begin work in January and February.

Representative groups of math teachers and English Language Arts teachers have been meeting to plan course offerings for students in grades 9 through 12. As decisions are made, look for more information to follow.

The teachers participating in the formative instructional practices (FIP) pilot have been working in small groups reviewing FIP PD modules for the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). Look for more information to follow in January when the pilot comes to an end.

Area B - Standards and Assessments

Area C - Using Data to Improve Instruction

Area D - Great Teachers and Leaders

Using Data to Inform Instruction (Area C)

Committee members from Area C continue to explore different data systems. ODE has still not published the final list of specifications. It is expected the system will need to warehouse all student data, provide online access to electronic curriculum, resources and tools aligned to the revised standards, provide curriculum customization for differentiated instruction and have data-analysis capabilities including early-warning indicators for teachers, administrators, parents, and students.

District DVALs (District Value-Added Leaders) and building administrators have started training BLTs on the utilization of Value-Added reports. This spring the district will link students to teachers in grades 4-8. Teachers in those grades will then receive classroom value-added reports in the fall. Intervention specialists, Title One teachers and Reading Center teachers will also receive value-added reports based on the students they serve in grades 4-8. The plan is to provide an initial training this spring for all teachers in those grade levels who will receive reports in the fall.

Great Teachers and Leaders (Area D)

The administrator evaluation system (OPES) committee has been meeting regularly to look at FCSD’s evaluation system. The evaluation system will be used to evaluate administrators next year. One component of the new evaluation system will involve goal setting. This will also be part of the teacher evaluation system.

On Nov. 15, the State Board of Education (SBOE) adopted the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) Framework which is aligned with the *Standards for the Teaching Profession*. Each teacher in Ohio will be evaluated using the multiple factors set forth in the framework. Fifty percent of the model is based on Student Growth Measures and the other fifty percent is based on teacher performance. The Framework is attached.

Send Candy Aston an email through the First Class System if you have questions about the contents of this newsletter or anything related to RttT .