

Curriculum Committee Plan
2007-2008

Superintendent: Dr. Christine Johnson
Chair: Mrs. Marcia Peters
Member: Mr. Rick Pappalardo
Member: Dr. Carter Abel

Meetings: To be held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Curriculum Committee Communication Protocol

The Curriculum Committee will meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. The agenda for each meeting will be developed by the Superintendent and Committee Chair collaboratively during the week preceding the meeting. The meeting agenda will be e-mailed to all committee members and the Board President one day prior to the meeting.

Minutes will be taken at each meeting and sent to the entire board of education via the board packet/binder sent for each month's work session.

At each board meeting, the Curriculum Committee Chair will report out to the full board of education and community topics that were discussed, accomplishments, and action to be taken. The Curriculum Committee Chair and Superintendent will provide the full board with a written document and report out on progress toward committee goals and related strategic plan goals at the following established meeting dates:

- October 23, 2007 (In conjunction with the QAAR Presentation at the Regular Meeting)
- January 15, 2008 (Work Session)
- March 4, 2008 (Work Session)

The Curriculum Committee Chair and the Superintendent will communicate weekly and commit to contacting each board member when accomplishments are to be recognized or serious issues need to be addressed.

If a board member has any questions regarding topics on a work session or board agenda regarding a curriculum motion, they are to contact the Curriculum Committee Chair or the Superintendent prior to the meeting.

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Curriculum Committee's Recent Accomplishments

- Curriculum Renewal and Evaluation Plan
- Curriculum Renewal & Evaluation Cycle
- Development and implementation of the following curriculum:
 1. Math K-8 Essential Learning Outcomes
 2. Writing K-8 Essential Learning Outcomes
 3. Reading K-4 Essential Learning Outcomes (Guided Reading & DRA/Running Records)
 4. Middle School Gr. 5 Advisory Curriculum
 5. Spelling K-4 Outcomes
 6. Daily Oral Language K-4 Outcomes
 7. Problem Solving Curriculum at M.S.
 8. Technology Literacy Curriculum at M.S.
 9. Media Literacy Curriculum at M.S.
 10. Communications Literacy Curriculum at M.S.
 11. Social and Global Awareness Literacy Curriculum at M.S.
 12. Current Events Enrichment Curriculum at M.S.
 13. Where in the World Enrichment Curriculum at M.S.
 14. Strategic Games Enrichment Curriculum at M.S.
 15. Author/Book Study Enrichment Curriculum at M.S.
- Policy Renewal:
 - Home Instruction 6173
 - Home Schooling 6172.1
 - Curriculum Design and Development 6141
 - Curriculum Adoption 6140
 - Curriculum Guides 6143
 - Appropriate Use of Networked Information Resources 6141.8
 - Interscholastic/Intramural Competition 6145.3
- Newly designed Professional Development Plan
- Newly designed Mentoring Plan & New Staff Orientation Program
- Instituted a dedicated problem solving course for all students at the Middle School in response to test data
- Intervention programs designed and implemented before school and during the day for skills fragile students
- Dedicated performing arts/music period
- Membership and active participation in the New Jersey Benchmarking Consortium
- NJSSI ~ district selected to participate in the study and development of a standards-based, inquiry driven science curriculum
- Selected district to participate in the State-wide World Languages S.T.A.M.P. initiative
- Special Education
 1. Established Intervention & Referral Services Process
 2. Decrease in classification rates while increasing services
 3. Established Extended School Year Program
 4. Criteria established for resource room v. collaborative teaching model

Curriculum Committee Goals
2007-2008

1. Monitor the district's progress toward achieving the curriculum goals outlined in the Strategic plan:
 - a. Status of staff training, professional development for differentiated instruction.
 - b. Status of committee that is studying content area best practices.
 - c. Consider training for curriculum writing, cost and budget implications
 - d. Status of recruitment plan as it impacts curriculum delivery, writing.
 - e. Review induction plans for new staff (instructional and non-instructional) with regards to curriculum delivery.
 - f. Review status of curriculum related programs and issues delivered to the community via Parent Network, website, other related opportunities that can be used to generate community support and increase awareness of curriculum issues.
 - g. Review status of analysis and pilot program delivered to adults in the community via the Pathways program.
 - h. Review the status of implementing "16 Habits of the Mind" into curriculum (including Pathways offerings), professional development, and parent education.
 - i. Status of student health and fitness plan, including a character education plan, and other programs that promote social and emotional wellness and decision making skills.
 - j. Status of data plan with regards to curriculum evaluation, and modification.
2. Review all curriculum related policies (6000 level) and create a revision cycle in conjunction with the Policy committee.
3. Design opportunities to inform community of curriculum process and successes.
4. Monitor the impact curriculum related goals have on the current budget and future budget development
5. Monitor the status of curriculum development as it is being discussed and integrated with neighboring (sending) school districts.
6. Evaluate curriculum training opportunities available to school board members.
7. Review status of ongoing curriculum development, recommendations for new curriculum, text books, and professional development.

Related Committee Responsibilities	
May	Summer Curriculum Work Posting 8 th Grade Trip
June	School Register Report Approval of Summer Curriculum Work Minisink Trip NJ SMART Submission Prepare School Level Objectives and Attainment Report
July	Submit School Level Objectives and Attainment Report to County Board of Education Retreat Home Schooling Survey Approval of Curriculum and Materials/Texts
August	Approval of Remaining Curriculum and Materials/Texts
September	NCLB Electronic Grant Submission Field Trip Approval [September – December] Fall/Winter Pathways to Learning Program Approval
October	NJ School Report Card Electronic Data Submission IDEA Application Electronic Submission QAAR Nursing Plan Substance Abuse Plan Constitutionally Protected Prayer Assurance ASSA Submission Fall Survey LEP Report NJ SMART Student Data Submission New Jersey School Boards Convention
November	School Violence Awareness Week Materials Survey for NJASK & GEPA Red Ribbon Week
December	Professional Development Plan Field Trip Approval [January – June] NCLB Final Report IDEA Final Report School Report Card Edits Special Education Annual Data Report [December 1 Count] Pre-ID Labels for NJASK & GEPA
January	Winter/Spring Pathways to Learning Program Approval Report Card Narrative
February	Character Education Application for Following Year Immigrant Student Count Report Approval of the District Calendar
March	NJASK Testing GEPA Testing Annual Evaluations for Special Education Typically Begin
April	NJ Visual & Performing Arts Survey

Strategic Plan Focus Areas & Goals Curriculum Committee Areas of Responsibility	Strategies 2007-2008
<p style="text-align: center;">Focus Area #1 High Quality Instruction & Curricular Programs</p> <p>The Mendham Township School District is committed to providing all students with high quality instruction and curricular programs.</p>	<p>By the end of 2008, the Mendham Township School District will:</p>
<p>Goal #1 To ensure research-based instructional strategies and content pedagogical best practices guide the teaching and learning process.</p>	
<p>Objective 1.1.a The Mendham Township School District will design and implement standards-based instructional frameworks based on the readiness levels, interests, and learning styles of all children;</p> <p>Objective 1.1.b. The Mendham Township School District will study, implement, and evaluate research-based instructional and assessment-oriented best practices and strategies in all content areas in order to enhance the teaching and learning process.</p>	<p>Provide training in the area of differentiated instruction for all instructional staff regarding the methodologies geared towards addressing the special interests, learning styles, and readiness levels of all students.</p> <p>Building committees will study the research of best practices across content areas and present relevant information and during faculty, grade level and department meetings.</p> <p>Building committees will analyze current practices presented by Mendham Township staff and compared with the identification of research-based best practices in the core curriculum content areas.</p>

Goal #2	To routinely review, renew, and evaluate standards-based curricula designed with skills, content, and concepts clearly delineated by grade level.	Strategies Cont. 2007-2008 By the end of 2008, the Mendham Township School District will:
Objective 1.2a.	The Mendham Township School District will utilize its approved Curriculum Renewal and Evaluation Plan as the basis for developing, evaluating, and renewing all curricular programs.	Offer additional training for any staff intending to participate in curriculum writing committees in the philosophies and practical applications associated with the Board of Education approved Curriculum Renewal and Evaluation Plan.
Goal #3	To promote the hiring and retention of the most qualified and effective personnel in all functional areas of the school district.	
Objective 1.3.b.	The Mendham Township School District will provide all new staff to the profession and to the district with a high-quality, differentiated induction program.	Analyze and revise the current teacher induction plan to reflect both quantitative and qualitative data collected from the focus groups and staff surveys. Explore non-instructional staff induction plans from school districts and other work environments.

<p style="text-align: center;">Focus Area #3 Community Awareness and Support of Our Schools</p> <p>The Mendham Township School District is committed to designing opportunities to strengthen community awareness and support of district-wide efforts.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Strategies Cont. 2007-2008</p> <p>By the end of 2008, the Mendham Township School District will:</p>
<p>Goal #1 To involve parents, community members, and local agencies as learners and partners in the development of community-oriented schools.</p>	
<p>Objective 3.1.a. The Mendham Township School District will provide timely and meaningful opportunities for district parents and the community-at-large to participate in programs and special offerings during and after school hours.</p>	<p>Develop and enact a plan that identifies the activities and events to invite parents, local agency leaders, township officials, department heads, community groups and local boards to participate in.</p> <p>Continue to work collaboratively with Parent Network, a committee of the Home and School Association, to organize and deliver timely and meaningful learning opportunities to district parents.</p> <p>Pilot an evening community learning strand of courses through the Pathways to Learning Program for adults in the community.</p> <p>Establish a comprehensive database housing the contact information of all local agency leaders, township officials, department heads, community groups, and local boards.</p>
<p>Goal #3 To establish communication vehicles in order to increase awareness and knowledge of district, building, and classroom activities.</p>	
<p>Objective 3.3.a. The Mendham Township School District will develop and implement a comprehensive communication plan.</p>	<p>Implement the first tier of the communication plan as it relates to needs identified by parents, students, staff, and community members.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Focus Area #4 Supportive and Safe Learning Environments</p> <p>The Mendham Township School District is committed to providing all students with supportive and safe learning environments.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Strategies Cont. 2007-2008</p> <p>By the end of 2008, the Mendham Township School District will:</p>
<p>Goal #2 To support and encourage all students to be risk-takers and confident contributors to support the teaching and learning processes.</p>	
<p>Objective 4.2.a. The Mendham Township School District will foster the development of analytical thinking, life skills, and cooperative learning by integrating experiences into curricula that enhance authentic, life-long learning and provide opportunities for choice.</p>	<p>Train elementary and middle school staff in the Johnson and Johnson cooperative learning model.</p> <p>Study the <i>16 Habits of Mind</i> in committee, and identify the <i>Habits</i> that are appropriate for content-area, curricular integration of cooperative, problem-based learning experiences at the elementary and middle school levels.</p> <p>Train elementary and middle school staff on the <i>16 Habits of Mind</i> and the ways in which cooperative learning is impacted by the focus on and integration of the <i>Habits</i> into the teaching and learning process.</p> <p>Educate parents of elementary and middle school students on the <i>16 Habits of Mind</i> and the ways in which learning is impacted by the focus on and integration of the <i>Habits</i> into the teaching and cooperative learning process.</p> <p>Continue to offer an array of Pathways to Learning courses for children in the community to choose to register for during the fall/winter, winter/spring, and in the summer to provide enriching learning experiences.</p> <p>Conduct a formal evaluation of the Pathways to Learning Program by disseminating a survey and analyzing the results and feedback provided by parents and student participants.</p> <p>Plan and institute a summer camp for students that focus on the social, emotional, and academic development of participants.</p> <p>Establish elementary and middle school study groups to examine innovative ways to enhance lunch, recess, and enrichment periods by providing students with expanded choices based on students' learning profiles, interests, and readiness levels.</p>

<p>Goal #3 To design and implement support systems that promote the emotional, physical, and social development of all students.</p>	<p>Strategies Cont. 2007-2008</p> <p>By the end of 2008, the Mendham Township School District will:</p>
<p>Objective 4.3.a. The Mendham Township School District will develop and implement a comprehensive student health and fitness plan;</p> <p>Objective 4.3.b. The Mendham Township School District will design and implement training and district programs to promote social and emotional wellness, and decision-making skills of all students.</p>	<p>Conduct small group dialogues with students, staff, parents, and the community at-large to align contemporary research findings with those identified by the Mendham Township School Community.</p> <p>Coordinate efforts with parents and community primary care providers to expand community health information infrastructure.</p> <p>Design and implement a comprehensive health and fitness education plan, reflective of the collected and analyzed data, that details the steps needed to design activities and curricula that will promote healthy habits for and reduce unhealthy behaviors by our students, and expand the health information infrastructure.</p> <p>Design and infuse a program with a holistic approach to curriculum that identifies desirable character traits and core values, and identifies decision-making skills that promote peaceful and productive learning environments.</p> <p>Implement innovative multi-age programs, utilizing school and community resources that reinforce core values through collaborative lessons and peer support.</p> <p>Clearly communication behavior standards and expectations as outlined in the district's long-range program plan to address school climate.</p> <p>Present and plan for the implementation of foundational components found in the comprehensive guidance plan.</p> <p>Develop activities that establish a sense of community for students transitioning to the middle and high schools, into the district, and students returning from out-of district placements.</p>

Focus Area #5 Accountability Systems to Support Improvement		Strategies Cont. 2007-2008
The Mendham Township School District is committed to designing and utilizing accountability systems to support district-wide improvement.		By the end of 2008, the Mendham Township School District will:
Goal #1	To develop an on-going comprehensive system of accountability that supplies data to and from schools to measure progress and guide decision-making and planning.	
Objective 5.1.a.	The Mendham Township School District will design a data plan reflecting quantitative and qualitative data that need to be collected and organized in school and district portfolios and benchmarks to be evaluated annually in order to improve upon operations, practices, and procedures.	Analyze tier-one data and model the presentation of results to staff through a selected “data dialogue” protocol in order to inform and elicit feedback, relevant to the district’s comprehensive data plan. Educate and prepare staff for the methods needed to collect tier-two data.