

Curriculum Report
MSAD #53 School Board
October 4, 2010

Curriculum

- Science and Health teams will meet this year to develop strategies for implementing the curricula approved in June 2010.
- Literacy staff will work with K-4 teachers at designated staff meetings during the year to create calendar maps based on the new English/Language Arts curriculum.
- Teachers and students in grades 2-5 are hard at work with the new Saxon math program.

Title I

Our new after school program is off to a fantastic start with over 60 students in grades 3-6 registered. Director Bethany Downs, who is part of our daytime Special Education staff, is leading a team of six Title I and Special Education staff members in working with students from 3-4:30 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The students are grouped for work on reading skills, math, and homework support.

Gifted/Talented

- Individual student planning meetings have been scheduled for the month of October for students with academic identifications. Plans will be developed for 40 students.
- Theater Arts teacher Debra Susi has developed an enrichment program for students identified as gifted or talented in theater arts. These students will meet once a week with Mrs. Susi and have set a goal to stage a full drama production.
- The Algebra I class is meeting daily as scheduled with 12 students enrolled.

Professional Development

- Professional Learning Groups met for their first session of the year on September 20th. Topics this year focus on effective practices in math, reading, writing, social studies, technology integration, positive school climate, and mental health support for students.
- Great Schools Partnership consultant Jean Haegar provided several staff members with refresher training in collecting data through classroom observations for the iWalkthrough system. Data teams, the District Improvement Team, and grade level teaching teams will use this data to examine classroom practices. This work is funded through our School Improvement Plans (CIPS funds).
- A third round of training and support for teachers of Saxon math will take place during our October in-service days.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne V. Miller

Curriculum Specialist