

Curriculum Report
MSAD #53 School Board
May 2, 2011

Curriculum

- The Science Curriculum Team will meet next on May 31st at 3:00 p.m.
- Health Curriculum meetings will be scheduled for summer, dates TBD. We are looking forward to working with a School Health Coordinator!
- Students in the 5th and 8th grades will be taking the Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) for Science between May 9th and 20th.
- 4th grade students are taking the NWEA science tests this week to provide teachers with information to better prepare next year's 4th and 5th graders for science.
- Anne Miller and Lindsay Bolduc (7-8 Teacher) are representing the district and Warsaw on an MCI committee that is exploring the idea of developing a "9th Grade Academy" at MCI. Similar to the summer Transitions Academy, the concept centers on providing supports throughout the first year of high school that address the specific needs of students transitioning from middle school to high school.
- Anne Miller is representing the district on MCI's Culture Task Force, a group charged with examining the present culture at MCI in order to make recommendations to the Headmaster regarding raising student aspirations. The task force will complete its work by the end of April.

Professional Development

- Professional Learning Groups (PLGs) are winding up their work for this year. A report will be provided at the Board meeting.
- Warsaw Math teachers will meet April 28th for a final training session with consultant Ann Pike of Syntiro. Ms. Pike has guided the participating teachers in examination of effective math practices, differentiation, the new Common Core standards for math, formative assessment, and more. Staff feedback has been very positive.
- District Literacy Specialists Tracy Hallee and Louise McCannell have designed an in-house course for staff on implementing word study curriculum and instruction. This is the second course offered by our lit. specialists on this area which has been identified as a weakness in our students' learning. Approximately 15 staff members are taking the course and will earn contact hours for certification.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne V. Miller
Curriculum Specialist