

**MSAD #53 School Board
Curriculum Report
April 5, 2010**

I. Curriculum Committee Meeting Dates:

5-8 Health – Tuesday, April 6th from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m., Warsaw (Littlefield)
Pk-8 Science – Thursday, April 8th from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Warsaw (Littlefield)
5-6 Math -- Thursday, April 8th from 12:30 – 2:45 p.m., Warsaw (Cafeteria)
5-8 Math – Thursday, April 29th from 12:30 – 3:00 p.m., Warsaw (Cafeteria)
K-8 ELA – Tuesday, May 4th from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Warsaw (Graham)
PK-4 Math – Thursday, May 6th from 12:30 – 3:00 p.m., Vickery (Library)
PK-8 Math – Thursday, May 13th from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Warsaw (Cianchette)

Drafts of the Science, Health, Math, and English/Language Arts curricula will be presented at the April Board Curriculum Meeting. These curriculum documents reflect some significant changes. First, the ELA and math curricula are aligned to the grade level expectations for the NECAP, the assessment that has replaced the MEA. These grade level expectations have been incorporated in the Maine Learning Results.

The curriculum teams have written the documents to be much more specific in several areas, including word study expectations and phonics in the ELA document, and in the math document in several areas such as indicating benchmark numbers for measurement, place value, and rational numbers.

The science curriculum is aligned to the Maine Learning Results and associated expectations for the MEA for science in grades 5 and 8. An effort has been made to incorporate a clear scope and sequence K-8. The science team will attend a workshop on using literacy strategies in science class and plan to incorporate some of those strategies into the document.

The health curriculum for Warsaw students was drafted over the summer to be integrated into other subject areas. The team will meet to make adjustments to this plan with the recent addition of a health class in the allied arts rotation for grades 5 and 6 for next year.

All of the documents present student learning goals (umbrella concepts), content, and skills in a significantly different format that we believe is teacher-friendly and will make the documents practical and useful.

Teachers have had several opportunities to review the draft documents in small and large groups to provide feedback to the curriculum teams. Final revisions will be made by staff in April and May. We will request approval for these curriculum documents at the June Board meeting.

II. PIE Report

On March 24th, the district and MCI joined forces to host our first Parent Information Event (PIE). We offered 23 different informational sessions to parents. The goal of the evening was to reach out to parents by providing information to help them better understand programs in our schools. All of the sessions were voluntarily facilitated by district or MCI staff. Although attendance was disappointing at only 30 parents, all of the feedback received was very positive, with lots of encouragement to offer the event again. A list of sessions offered and comments from evaluations are included with this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne V. Miller
Curriculum Specialist