



Currents

Curriculum Update

K-12 curriculum work in Math will begin on October 14-15, 2009. A team of 21 teachers representing all grade levels and special education will “unpack” the new Wisconsin Math standards and put them into teacher friendly language. The unpacked standards will be used to develop a core map for mathematics instruction in each grade level and course in the District. Core maps will outline the “non-negotiables” — everything that must be taught in mathematics at each grade level. Core maps will become our District alignment documents. To see the new math standards go to: <http://dpi.state.wi.us/cal/math-intro.html>

WKCE and the H1N1 Flu

The WKCE testing window runs from October 28-November 27, 2009. DPI recommends that schools administer the assessments during the first two weeks of the testing window, leaving the remaining days for make-ups. In recognition of the impact that some districts may incur due to an H1N1 Flu outbreak, DPI will allow districts to begin testing at any time after test books have arrived in districts. Test books are scheduled to arrive on October 9, however, test labels may not have arrived by that date. If districts choose to begin testing early, student names may be written on the testing booklets in the space designated for the label. The label can be applied when they arrive. All testing must be completed no later than November 27, and booklets must be returned to DPI no later than December 7, 2009.

Volume 1, Issue 2, October 2009



“Here is Edward Bear, coming downstairs, now, bump, bump, bump, on the back of his head behind Christopher Robin. It is, as far as he knows, the only way of coming downstairs, but somewhere he feels there is another way, if only he could stop for a moment and think of it.” A. A. Milne

Technology Tidbits

The ISSAC Consortium, a group of Rock County school districts focused on integrating technology into instructional practices, featured Kevin Honeycutt as a speaker at their October workshop. Kevin is an art teacher and technology integrator that shares his work and ideas at <http://kevinhoneycutt.org>. Looking for ideas? Check out his site!

Staff Development

WEAC Convention: October 29-30, 2009 in Milwaukee, WI



October staff development centers around attendance at the WEAC Convention. Staff who prefer to engage in an alternative staff development plan, may submit their proposal, in writing, to the building Principal. If approved by the Principal, it will be forwarded to the Director of Instruction for District approval. Alternative proposals must be submitted to building Principals by Friday, October 23, 2009.

Staff interested in attending the WEAC Convention can register at: http://www.weac.org/calendar_and_events/calendar/2009Convention.aspx

New Teacher Mentor Program

District changes to the teacher mentor program continue as we move away from “buddy system mentoring” to instructional mentoring. The purpose of instructional mentoring is to help beginning teachers move their practice forward. Underlying this programming shift is the belief that teaching is a developmental process that can benefit from reflection and collaboration. The support of an instructional coach who responds to each new teacher’s individual developmental and contextual needs will keep new teachers in the profession longer and help them to develop the norms of continuous inquiry, ongoing assessment, and problem-solving.

Please congratulate and thank your colleagues as they serve the District as Instructional Coaches:

*Butch Beedle
General Educators*

*Kim Katzenmeyer
Special Educators*

