



# Livingston Public School 2017 Curriculum Update

Presented by: Natalie Topylko and Marybeth Kopacz

September 25, 2017

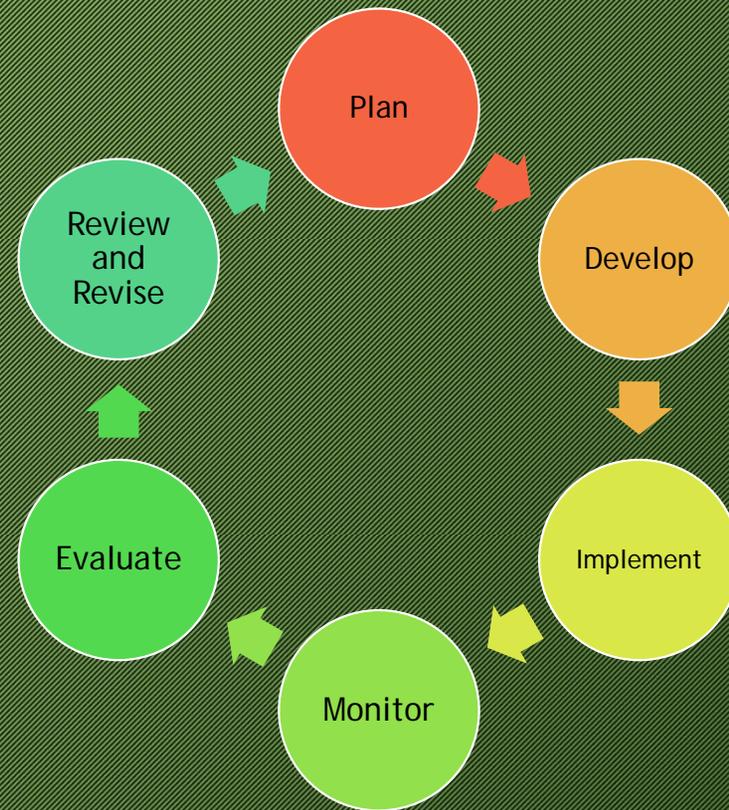
## Goals for the evening...

- Vision of Curriculum Writing
- Required elements
- Highlights / overarching themes
- Department work
- 5-year writing and revision plan

# The Curriculum Cycle

Curricula should be “living documents” that are part of a continuous cycle:

- Needs Assessment / Plan
- Develop
- Implement
- Monitor
- Evaluate
- Review and Revise



# Required elements

Modified *Understanding by Design* (UbD) template  
(McTighe and Wiggins)

<b>Unit – (Title )</b>
<b>Brief description or unit summary:</b>
<b>Target Course/Grade Level:</b>
<b>Standards and CPI:</b>
<b>Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills:</b>
<b>Time Line:</b>
<b>Unit Essential Questions:</b>
<b>Unit Enduring Understandings:</b>
<b>Students will know:</b>
<b>Students will be able to:</b>
<b>Authentic Assessment – Evidence of Learning</b>
<b>Formative:</b>
<b>Summative/Benchmark:</b>
<b>Alternate:</b>
<b>Learning Plan/Instructional Strategies</b>
<b>Instructional Strategies/Learning Activities: (can include models)</b>
<b>State Mandates</b>
<b>Interdisciplinary Connections</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills</b>
<b>Opportunities for Differentiation:</b>
<b>Resources</b>
<b>Core Instructional/Material Resources, including various levels of texts at each grade level:</b>
<b>Human and Professional Resources:</b>

# NJDOE Mandates

- Interdisciplinary connections through the K-12 curriculum
- Integration of 21st century themes and skills including technology
- Aligned to current academic standards.
- Supportive curricula and instructional tools for helping students acquire required knowledge and skills:
  - Pacing guide
  - List of core instructional materials, including various levels of texts at each grade level
  - Benchmark assessments
  - Modifications for special education students, English Language Learners, students at risk of school failure and gifted students

# Standard Content Area State Board Adoption Date

Standard	Content Area	State Board Adoption Date	Required District Implementation of Revised Curricula
1	Visual and Performing Arts	July 9, 2014	September 2015
2	Comprehensive Health and Physical Education	July 9, 2014	September 2015
3	English Language Arts	May 4, 2016	September 2017
4	Mathematics	May 4, 2016	September 2017
5	Science	July 9 2014	Grade 6-12 - September 2016 Grades K-5 - September 2017
6	Social Studies	July 9, 2014	September 2015
7	World Languages	July 9, 2014	September 2015
8	Technology	October 1, 2014	September 2015
9	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Life and Career Skills	October 1, 2014	September 2015

## Curriculum Writing Projects - Summer 2017

English Language Arts	Social Studies	Science	Mathematics
All grades K-6	All grades K-5	Grades K-2	Grades K, 2, and 6
Craft of Language	Grade 6 Social Studies	Grade 7 Life Science	Algebra 1 - HMS, Lab, CP, and H
English 1 Grade 9	Grade 7 Social Studies - Civics and US History	Grade 8 Physical Science	Geometry CP and Honors
English for Success	Modern World History	Biology - G, CP, and H	College Algebra Trig
World Film	Contemporary American History	Chemistry - CP and H	College Math Seminar
Speech and Drama	AP World History	Physics - CP	Computer Programming
Reading Intervention Units		Environmental Science - CP and H	Precalculus - H
Reading Specialist Units		Physical Science - G	Intro. To Calculus - BC - H
		Forensic Science	AP Computer Science
		Astronomy	7-12 Resource Math Courses
		Biotechnology	
		AP Capstone (Seminar and Research)	

## Curriculum Writing Projects (continued) - Summer 2017

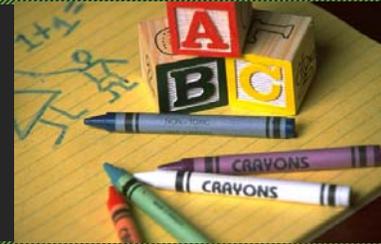
Health and Physical Education	Visual and Performing Arts	World Language and ESL	Interdisciplinary Courses
Health and Wellness - Grades K, 1, and 2	Elementary General Music	French 6-12	PRIDE
Health and Wellness - Grade 11 - First Aid, CPR, and AED	Visual Arts and Sculpture	Italian 9-12	AP Seminar and Research - Liberal and Fine Arts (First Course of a Two-Year Capstone)
	Portfolio Development - Elements of Art and Principles of Design	Spanish 9-12	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Humanities - Linking History, English, Art, and Music
	TV Production, Advanced TV, AM Wired	World Film 1	World Film 1
		World Film 2	World Film 2
		ESL - Grades K-12	

## Curriculum Writing Projects (continued) - Summer 2017

Business Education	Family and Consumer Science	Technology, Design, and Engineering
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade IBA	Fashion 2	AP Computer Science Principles
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade IBA/Multi-media Enrichment	Interior Design	Transportation/Automotive Systems Automotive Mechanics
Accounting 1	Sports Nutrition and Foods	Technology: Today and Tomorrow
Accounting 2	Hotel / Restaurant Management	Technology and Design for Science and Engineering 3
Sports and Entertainment Marketing	Family and Child Development 1	Visual/Graphic Communications 1
Computer Applications	Family and Child Development 2	Visual/Graphic Communications 2
Co-operative Business	Senior Service	
Personal Financial Literacy		

# Highlights of Summer Curriculum Writing

# Summer Curriculum Writing - PRIDE



- Reflects revised 2014 Pre-school standards from the NJ Department of Education
- Incorporates revised *Creative Curriculum* materials to include major as well as supplemental units
- *Creative Curriculum's* mission is to address 10 areas of development:  
Social emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, math, science and technology, social studies, arts and English language acquisition.

CURRICULUM STUDY UNIT ORDER	
YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO
WELCOME TO SCHOOL	WELCOME TO SCHOOL
TREES	WHEELS
BUILDINGS	RECYCLE
CLOTHING	BOXES
BALLS	BREAD
ROCKS	LIGHT & SHADOW
INSECTS	PETS
	FLOWERS

# Summer Curriculum Writing

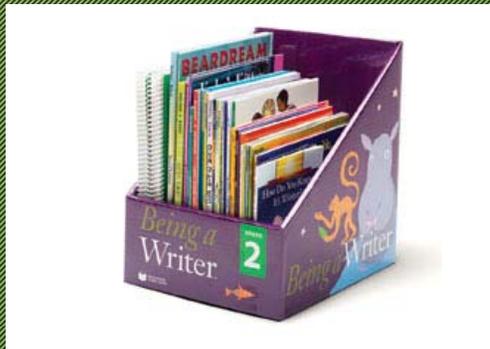
## English Language Arts - K - 6 and Craft of Language

### Goals:

- 2016 - 2017 - Train teachers in the newly adopted writing program - Center for Collaborative Classroom's Being A Writer
- Summer 2017 - Embed Being A Writer resources and assessments into the Livingston Public School Writing Units of Study



# Highlights of the Being A Writer Program



- Research-based curriculum, supports NJSLS's
- Supports English Language Learners
- Interweaves academic and social-emotional learning
- Provides professional development for teachers
- Uses authentic children's literature
- Facilitates student discussion, provides a model for the respectful exchange of ideas, and helps students develop their own voice
- Provides technology tutorials, digital resources, and learning hub
- Endorsed by the National Writing Project

# Summer Curriculum Writing: English

- **English 1 (Grade 9)**

This curriculum was revised after first being overhauled during our previous writing cycle using an Understanding By Design framework in order to adhere to the newly adopted New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSL) for ELA. Since that time, we have revamped the thrust of several of our units by rewriting essential questions (particularly those in Unit 4) and by clarifying the goals and understandings for each unit. Teachers have worked to align more closely all suggested classroom strategies, texts, and resources with these questions, and have created culminating projects for each marking period that incorporate all of the skills and content that have been taught throughout each quarter.

- **English For Success**

The EFS curriculum serves as a bridge course for students placing out of the ESL program but not quite ready for mainstream English classes. By following a UBD format, this much-needed revision better prepares students for the rigors of a CP class by looking at a variety of challenging yet accessible texts through the lens of modified Essential questions that are suitable for students who are typically new to this country.

- **World Film**

One of the first curricula to be adopted using the UbD template nine years ago, World Film has now been revised both in terms of content and approach by focusing on 21<sup>st</sup> century skills such digital literacy, online collaboration, and an increased focus on self-directed learning. Formative and summative assessments provide more opportunities for differentiation and many new film, video, and online resources have been added to support the learning goals.

- **Speech and Drama**

This student-centered, project-based curriculum needed extensive work in developing a clear unit sequence along with instructional strategies and activities that matched the course learning goals. Newly designed assessments and rubrics allow students to engage in public speaking opportunities as well as theatrical performances, using kinesthetic skills as well as close-text analysis strategies. A unit that explores the evolution of theater history was also added.

# Elementary Science Curricular Revisions: Incorporating STEAM



STEAM was incorporated into each unit to afford students the ability to interact with the NGSS engineering standards. STEAM has been shown to

- nurture children's natural curiosity
- increase student engagement
- enhance critical thinking
- allow for student decision making
- give students the opportunity to solve problems



*Each unit in K, 1, 2 now has authentic learning activities and assessments that foster creative thinking, seeing patterns, and applying content.*



# Social Studies Completed Summer Goals 2017

- ✓ Created a list of grade level interdisciplinary skills(1-6) that teachers can use to create learning projects, assessments and activities that cut across disciplines.
- ✓ Finalized assessments, 3-5, to provide data points to assess the effectiveness of key concepts within the social studies program.
- ✓ Grade 6 teachers brainstormed interdisciplinary STEM ideas and activities utilizing the new media center at MPM.



# New LHS Social Studies Curricula

## Contemporary American History

This semester elective course is designed to more deeply investigate historical events of the recent past. Starting with the election of Ronald Reagan and the re-emergence of a conservative political movement, students will utilize a thematic and chronological approach to understand historical trends through the 21st century. These themes will include economic developments, domestic and foreign policy influences, social pressures and political divisions. By the end of this course, students will have a stronger contextual understanding of the history of their own lifetimes.

# Summer Curriculum Writing: Mathematics K - 6

Mathematics curriculum documents for grades Kindergarten, 2, and 6 were rewritten to meet the vision of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and Mathematical Practices and to include activities and assessments that promote critical thinking, are engaging, differentiated, and incorporate technology.

Additional units were added to the grade 2 curriculum with fiction texts to support student learning of mathematical concepts.





# LHS Interdisciplinary Work

## English, Social Studies, Visual and Performing Arts

- **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Humanities**

These interdisciplinary courses will link four subjects (History, English, Art and Music) to explore the intellectual and political history, as well as the economic, literary and cultural influences that have shaped modernity. They are designed to facilitate students' understanding of Modern World History through the study of literature, non-fiction works, electronic media, film, music and fine and commercial art. Students will use diverse textual and cultural resources to understand broad themes in World History beginning with the Renaissance and continuing through modern-day. Selection of 9th grade Humanities will require three dedicated class periods in the students' schedule in order to integrate these disciplines. Students will fulfill the Social Studies, English and the Visual and Performing Arts standards required for graduation by the state of New Jersey.

- **AP Seminar: Liberal and Fine Arts**

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

# Summer Curriculum Writing: World Language Electives



- World Film 1 was revised in coordination with the English Department. The content of the course was changed in order to incorporate modern films with classical films to provide a deeper understanding of world events and how they affect today's society.
- The World Film 2 curriculum was developed as an interdisciplinary course with the Social Studies Department as a full year class for juniors and seniors. This year, research conducted by the AP Government classes will be used to produce short documentaries. The course incorporates World Languages, Art, and Technology standards.
- Students will also learn pre-production (research-preparing for filming a documentary) use of all equipment (lights-camera-sound) and post-production (editing with Adobe premiere software).

# Summer Curriculum Writing Health and Physical Education

- ✓ Mindfulness continues to be a focus in both our HE and PE courses. Covey's -*Seven Habits of Happy Healthy Kids* is being added to resource list.
- ✓ Elementary Health and Wellness has consistent vertical alignment of the curriculum on 4 units in the elementary Health and Wellness program. Wellness, Integrated (Life) Skills, Drugs and Medicine and Family Life.
- ✓ Wellness Unit includes - safety, mental health, nutrition; Integrated Skills includes - conflict resolution skills, refusal skills, communication skills; Drugs and Medicine includes - RX drugs, household products, alcohol and tobacco; Family Life includes - family types, relationships, puberty and growth.
- ✓ High School students are prepared for what to do in an emergency including the new 911 laws for drugs and alcohol overdose/poisoning.
- ✓ The Special Project program in PE supports those students who are not in district. This will support the NJDOE programs for graduation requirements.

# Summer Curriculum Writing: Visual and Performing Arts

## Rewritten/Revised Curricula:

- Elementary General Music - updated format, added 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, incorporated grade level appropriate activities that use technology, such as SmartMusic with recorders in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, and implemented Music Therapy with ABA and PRIDE classes.
- Visual Arts and Sculpture - updated format, essential questions, and enduring understandings. Increased vertical articulation between 8<sup>th</sup> grade art and high school art, as well as incorporated technology into both curricula.
- Portfolio Development - rewritten with new units relating to the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Revised formative and summative assessments, as well as updated resources and references including technology resources.



# Summer Curriculum Writing: Visual and Performing Arts

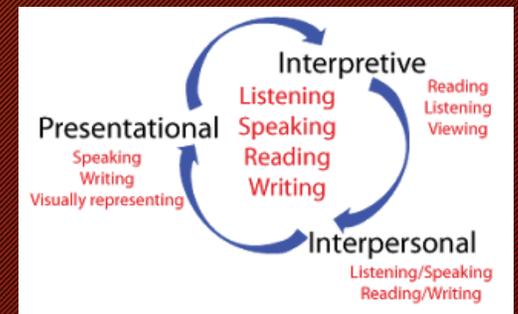
## Rewritten/Revised Curricula (cont.):

- TV Production, Advanced TV, AM Wired –
  - ✓ Updated format regarding how information is now recorded (from Digital to HD).
  - ✓ Updated curricula with the equipment students are currently using (equipment from the previous curriculum revision is now obsolete).
  - ✓ The structure of TV Production has changed to accommodate more students' abilities and interests.
  - ✓ AM Wired content is now more focused for students who are interested in the technical, real world component of the course.

# Summer Curriculum Writing: World Language Advanced Placement

## Highlights:

- AP curricular documents in Chinese, French, and Italian were aligned to the new College Board requirements, WL standards, and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills
- The AP curricular documents were revised to reflect College Board instructional strategies that maintain the pace and rigor of an Advanced Placement college level language course.



# Summer Curriculum Writing: English As a Second Language (ESL)

## Highlights:

- Second year revision of ESL K-12 curriculum
- Vertical and horizontal articulation
- Addition of course outline, pacing guide, and scope and sequence
- Differentiated according to WIDA grade level clusters and English Proficiency Levels
- Incorporation of the science, math, and social studies language components of ESL.



# A few notes regarding the Business Education, Family Consumer Science, & TDE areas...

## Curriculum

- ✓ We are the 8.1, 8.2, 9.1, 9.2, & 9.3 Content Specialists
- ✓ 58 Different Courses
- ✓ 17 Different Content Areas
- ✓ 13 Different Career Clusters
- ✓ Next Standards Revision - 2019

## The Future

- ✓ Always at the cutting edge of Technology
- ✓ The original "Maker Spaces"
- ✓ Build on the Interdisciplinary STEAM Focus
- ✓ Future Pathways/More Depth

## Continuation of the Work and Next Steps:

- Interdisciplinary Connections
- Technology integration into instruction, content and pedagogy
- Horizontal and vertical articulation
- Creation of five-year curriculum revision plan

