



Curriculum Adoption

June 3, 2026

Profile of a Graduate & Curriculum Development

Our curriculum isn't just about what students learn—it's about who they become.

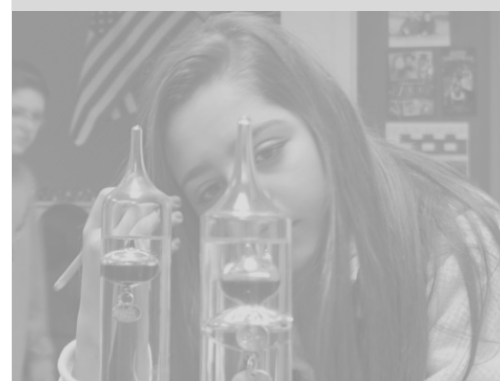
Our units are backward-designed to align learning experiences and performance assessments with the capacities.



Emphasis is on real-world application, interdisciplinary learning, and student agency.



Learning is not just about content mastery, but about developing the skills, habits, and mindsets students need to thrive.



K-3 ELA Revision Highlights



- Adoption of Bookworms
- Adoption of Geodes
- Continue with Foundations and Heggerty

Vocabulary

Explicitly taught, not just picked up incidentally.

Instruction includes direct teaching of word meanings, strategies for figuring out unknown words, and exposure to rich oral and written language.

Comprehension

Instruction is explicit, systematic, and scaffolded, teaching students how to monitor understanding, ask/answer questions, summarize, infer, and integrate information.

Background knowledge is critical.

Small-group

Practice opportunities in the five pillars after the initial direct teaching.

Allows for differentiation within Tier 1.

Helps build oral language and engagement structures that reinforce vocabulary and comprehension.

DHHS: Geometry Revision Highlights

Incorporates Investigative Tasks

Designed to balance depth and breadth of geometric concepts

Blends geometric and algebraic concepts to reinforce foundational algebra skills

Aligns with district initiative to remove Level 3 Geometry

Unit D

**Congruence and Similarity
Geometry**

Unit E

**Right Triangles and
Trigonometry**

Unit F

Circles and Physical Properties

Grade 6-8 Social Studies Highlights



Grade 6

- Alignment to updated CT SS Standards with an emphasis on cultural and physical geography of ancient cultures
- Grade 6 is in a polishing phase after a complete revamp in 2024
- We have used the G.R.A.p.E.S acronym to consistently incorporate geography across units
- We replaced our Unit 2 PBA with a new “Shark Tank” activity emphasizing Analyzing for historical significance



Grade 7

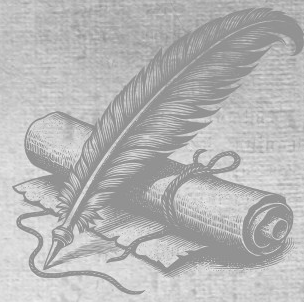
- Alignment to updated CT SS Standards with a focus on the increasing globalization and development of human rights across the world in the twentieth century
- Emphasis on nonfiction reading/writing/ research
- 2 new units focused on world regional studies in Africa, South America, and Asia
- Strong Inter-department skill development between SS and LA



Grade 8

- Alignment to updated CT SS Standards with a focus on US history and government from 1775-1900
- Incorporation of 4 Question Method to enhance historical thinking skills throughout all units
- Challenges students to explore and define for themselves the American identity through early stages of American history
- Vertical alignment of nonfiction reading and writing skills.

Featured Social Studies Student Experiences



Grade 6 Meghan Pagliuco

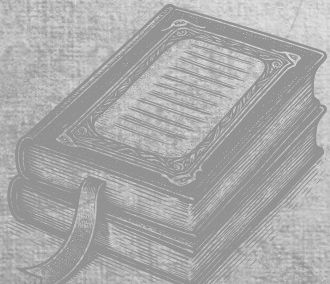
Unit 3 LA 2 Marco Polo Investigation

An example of an engaging simulation
typical of others woven through the
curriculum.

Grade 7 Art Robbins

Unit 3

Discussing Decolonization as unit
designed to promote student decision
making and intellectual curiosity through a
host (5) of engaging student products.



Grade K-12 Art Highlights



Grade K-5

- With a new elementary model the art department anticipated a need for a curricular change as teachers may be teaching 7 grade levels a day
- The curriculum has been written with an A year and a B year.
- The lessons have been differentiated appropriately with matching resources and assessments.
- This curriculum change will ease the amount of prep for the elementary art teachers while continuing to provide an engaging and enriched art experience for our youngest artists.



Grade 6-8

- Projects updated to reflect student interest - AI will be an ongoing project - how will this affect art in the near future.



Grade 9-12

- Printmaking includes humanities standards with a focus on integrating literary concepts and themes
- Drawing classes featuring updated fundamental assignments to support college portfolio requirements-relevant and engaging subjects and materials
- Painting classes updated for flexible inclusion of various painting media
- Movie Making updated to explore more film techniques like applied effects and contemporary filmmakers with an emphasis on approaches to narrative structure and storytelling.
- Ceramics - emphasis on skills and techniques - wheel throwing - applying these to a final project series
- Photography - updated to reflect how the horizon is changing with AI becoming more advanced



2026-2027 (Beginning this Summer)

- K-2 Social Studies
- 4-12 ELA
- AI Literacy

**ELA
(K-3)**

Lisa Caldwell
Erin Chester
Christina Zarotney
Allie Salomone
Deana Perillo
Tara Vitale
Lizzie Sharp
Amy Santoro
Alicia Dunbar
Brenda Schull
Jasmine Patel
Clare Peterlik
Christa Laragy

Geometry

Christine Justice
Danielle Carboni
Danielle Fragoso
John Hajus
Erin LeViness
Erin Neviaser
Joann Scavacini
Lauren White

**Social Studies
(6-8)**

Chris Pagliuco
Maria Dillon
Beth Micciche
Meghan Pagliuco
Lindsay Wasserman
Art Robbins
Robyn McManus
Kim Russo

**Art
(K-12)**

Bill Sommer
Carissa Connell
Katrina Engelhardt
Isabelle Muller
Kenny Moncada
Christa Radziunas
Andreia Mendonca
Clare Stone

