

Curriculum and Assessment
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I apologize for not having a more thorough report this month. I will have more data to share next month.

I want to thank you for allowing me to take on this new role. I am very excited about the many projects that I have started.

Currently Robert Hall and I are developing a K-12 IEFA curriculum for all content area. We will again focus on the areas of Language, History, Design and Culture. Our plan going forward is to invite current BNAS staff as well as any interested teachers to assist in developing the curricula. We are hoping for thematic units and projects that incorporate Blackfeet events such as Eloise Cobell Day. We are also looking at offering Professional Development to staff in August to help with any issues or concerns they may have. We are also planning on our first meeting with the Life skills Committee.

We completed our WIDA assessment at that end of January. I will be meeting with our Limited English Proficiency Committee this month to look at how to best utilize our current data and programs for English Language Learners.

The Math Committee has met a couple of times to review a new math curricula for K-8. We are also looking at replacing our curriculum based assessment, STAR math. Both the math curriculum and assessment tool do not align well with Common Core standards or the Smarter Balanced Assessment. We are looking at two programs that have shown potential in their alignment but also have been successful with students of similar demographics. The committee would like to have a decision before the end of the school year.

The final writing assessment was completed at the beginning of the month. The assessment scorers continue to work on scoring all of the assessments. Most likely the overall score of the high school will go down due to the new format. The assessors will be following the ACT rubric, which is very rigorous. Many of our students currently do not score high on the ACT writing. We do have a few sporadic 3's. In debriefing with the 9-12 grade English teachers, all of them were happy with the new format. They observed students getting right to work rather than being off task. It also opened up more instructional days for them. Any kinks that we had this first time have all been discussed and worked out.