

# TPSD Curriculum Development Project- Summer 2011

## Summary of Progress

The Curriculum Development Project is well underway and is on target to meet its goals. One hundred and forty teachers, representatives from each school in the district, are involved with the project, working in teams to create curriculum documents that will serve to unify teaching and learning across the district and to define the path for the journey forward. Project goals are listed below with a summary of progress toward achieving each goal.

**Project Goal: Create common pacing guides that divide the curriculum into nine week periods in a sequence that reflects best instructional practice.**

**Progress: 100% complete or in final proofing/editing**

Curriculum teams have either completed or are in the final stages of proofing and editing of the pacing guides. Teams have helped to shape the design of these documents to ensure that they maximize the information available to support teachers in pacing their instruction. Pacing guides in grades K-2 have used the Common Core State Standards and curriculum teams in these grades have worked diligently to familiarize themselves with the new curriculum and to align it to best practices. Pacing guides in grades 3-5 have used the Mississippi Curriculum Framework, but have been aligned to Common Core State Standards in mathematics.

**Project Goal: Create Curriculum Guides that supplement the state curriculum frameworks by identifying the essential skills, vocabulary, questions, instructional and assessment strategies, resources, and sample test items aligned to each curricular objective.**

**Progress: 60% complete, 13/24 guides complete**

Curriculum teams are working on curriculum guides and are making excellent progress. Teams have either completed thirteen out of twenty-four curriculum guides or are in the final stages of proofing or editing the documents. Many teachers working on teams have expressed their enthusiasm for this work, recognizing the value of these guides for supporting new and seasoned teachers in the classroom.

**Project Goal: Create assessment items which may be used to create common assessments for each nine weeks.**

**Progress: 10-15% complete**

Now that pacing guides are nearing completion, work has begun on the development of assessment items aligned with the curriculum. Curriculum teams are working to collect and create items in an item bank to be used to produce common assessments for curricular objectives targeted in each nine weeks of the pacing guide.

**Next Steps: Curriculum Document Publication/Training**

Plans for publication of curriculum documents are being completed according to the project plan. The goal is to ensure that these documents are "living documents," providing a common framework for teachers to reflect upon and share their best practices, resources, and ideas for supporting teaching and learning. 2011-2012 pacing and curriculum guides will be published by the beginning of the school year. Ongoing professional development, led by teacher leaders, will ensure that teachers are familiar with the new guides and are empowered to use them to support their instructional decisions. The TPSD Curriculum Department will solicit comments and suggestions for revision from teachers on an ongoing basis to ensure that all teachers have the opportunity to contribute to revision of the curriculum.