

# Department of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Submitted by: Rebecca Rappold

November 2023

## CURRICULUM

### **K-12 Elective Departments & 6-12 Content Area Teams Meet for Department Planning**

The district elective and 6-12 departments/content area teams met on November 8th at the BPS Wednesday Extended Day for their second department meeting of the year. These department teams will continue to be supported by the Director of Curriculum & Instruction and the Quarterly SBE Team to implement curricula, design coherent instruction EK-12, and move the department forward in regard to student's acquisition of the content standards and skills within these programs. Some feedback and follow-up work from this team meeting is included in the Department Planning/Follow-up document below:

# INSTRUCTION

Monthly Department Planning/Follow-up: November 8, 2023

|   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Art:</b><br>- Resources + PD for Art teachers<br>- Professional membership for Art to NAFA | <b>Music:</b><br>- No notes - will follow-up  | <b>CTE:</b><br>- (Class) sizes + load<br>- prerequisites for advanced courses<br>- TA permission | <b>HPE:</b><br>No notes in <del>book</del> classroom<br>- will follow-up                       |
| <b>Social Studies:</b><br>- No notes will follow-up   | <b>Science:</b><br>- Building level Dept. meeting due to BHS schedule at roster for new Science teacher | <b>Math:</b><br>- BHS to BHS transition for math students<br>- PT conferences                    | <b>ELA:</b><br>- Fall writing assessments<br>- my Access next steps<br>- writing data analysis |
| <b>Librarians:</b><br>- Library Policy<br>- will follow-up w/ notes                           | <b>BNAS:</b><br>- BNAS/Innovative Assessment  | <b>Special Services:</b><br>- SPED Teacher + TA training<br>- Care manager responsibilities      |  |

## LETRS Training for BPS Staff..Cohort 2 Begins



A cohort of 45 educators including; teachers, special educators, instructional coaches, and principals began LETRS training during the fall of 2023. LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading & Spelling) is a course designed to give teachers & administrators the skills needed to master the fundamentals of reading instruction including; phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, writing, and language. Too often, Montana Certified Teachers graduate

from their teacher prep program ill-equipped to teach reading. The significant language and literacy needs of our BPS students, tell us that we need to provide teachers with the best available knowledge to make instructional decisions for our students, Early Kindergarten-Grade 12+. This 2nd cohort of educators will complete the 2-years course in the spring of 2025.

# ASSESSMENT

Submitted by: Violet Sinclair-Boggs

## **Aperture Education**

The DESSA mini screener window for the 2023 - 24 school year has opened (October 2 - 27, 2023). Teachers are working on screening their students. Teachers will be able to identify students in need of additional support with the assistance of this tool. In addition to teachers screening their students, students will also screen themselves. Providing teachers and counselors with ideas on how to help students.

## **Writing Assessment K-12**

The first writing benchmark for the school year 2023 - 24 has been completed! Students in grades K - 3 were assessed by their teachers . In grades 4 - 12, students used MyACCESS to complete the assessment. While using the writing program, grades 4 - 8, students will continue to be assessed based on the 6+1 Traits of Writing, and from grade 9 - 12, they will be assessed based on the ACT Writing format.

## **WIDA; ACCESS 2.0**

The buildings are preparing for the ACCESS 2.0 assessment for English Language Learners identified in the schools. The window for the assessment is December 4 - February 23, 2024. Teachers are currently completing their certification to administer ACCESS 2.0 to students within their schools.