

The Interwoven Threads of Metuchen's K-12 Instructional Tapestry



Spring 2011 Curriculum Highlights

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Metuchen's K-12 Curriculum Tapestry

We don't accomplish anything in this world alone... and whatever happens is the result of the whole tapestry of one's life and all the weavings of individual threads form one to another that creates something.

- Sandra Day O'Connor



Curriculum Goal Attainment - English

- **Formative Assessment**

- ✓ Campbell School
- ✓ High School

- **21st Century Skills**

- ✓ Edgar Middle School

- **Grammar**

- ✓ Edgar Middle School
- ✓ High School



Additional English Highlights

- Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment
 - ✓ 2010-11 Identified Needs
 - ✓ Further accomplishments
- Professional Development
 - ✓ 2010-11 Identified Needs
 - ✓ Further accomplishments
- Special Recognition
- Areas of Focus for 2011-12



Curriculum Goal Attainment - Social Studies

■ Formative Assessment

- ✓ Campbell School
- ✓ High School

■ 21st Century Skills

- ✓ Edgar Middle School

■ Document-Based Question Essays

- ✓ High School



Additional Social Studies Highlights

- Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

- ✓ 2010-11 Identified Needs
- ✓ Further accomplishments

- Professional Development

- ✓ 2010-11 Identified Needs
- ✓ Further accomplishments

- Areas of Focus for 2011-12



Curriculum Goal Attainment - Mathematics

- New Common Core Curriculum Standards
- Departmental Goals
- Meeting the Needs of All Students



Additional Mathematics Highlights

- Web-based programs
- Algebra 1 Course Alignment
- Teacher Articulation



Curriculum Goal Attainment – Practical Arts

- Increased Career Awareness
- Expanded Project Choices
- Foods: Beyond the Basics



Additional Practical Arts Highlights

- Wood Shop Becomes Repair Center
- Foods From Around the World



Curriculum Goal Attainment - Fine & Performing Arts

- Infusion of 21st Century skills into all planning and classes
- Unit planning (UbD) focus of art/music
- K-12 Planning for projects and special programs
- Establishment of 21st Century skills K-12 goals for the 2011-2012 school year
- Piloting cross curricular projects
- Successful performances & exhibits



Additional Fine & Performing Arts Highlights

- “Keith Haring Art Project” Grades 1-12
- Art exhibits in each school
- Focus on environmentally friendly projects
- Music Department award as a “Best District for Music Education”
- Exceptional performances K-12
- Community & cross school performances



Curriculum Goal Attainment - World Languages

- Infusion of 21st Century Skills into all planning and classes
- Unit Planning (UbD)/departmental focus
- Strengthening K-2 Spanish Inclusion program
- Establishment of 21st C. Skills Goal for the 2011-2012 school year
- Examining consistency of instruction in all courses and from EMS to MHS



Additional World Languages Highlights

- Authentic Learning/ Travel to Spain
- Infusion of technology (SmartBoards/ “Skype”/PhotoStory/Elmo/ Audacity)
- Special programs /Oktoberfest/ Quinceanera/ Flamenco Dancing in PE
- “Language Buddies” HS program
- Interdisciplinary projects (all schools)



Curriculum Goal Attainment - Science

MHS Goal 1: *For the 2010-2011 school year, members of the Science Department will strengthen their use of formative assessments in their lessons.* All teachers participated in professional development on formative assessment, observed a peer, and reported on the use of formative assessments in their classroom. This goal is complete.

MHS Goal 2: *85% of students taking a biology course will earn a passing score on the department issued practice New Jersey Biology Competency Assessment.* Formative practice tests were administered in mid- September, early February, late March and late April. 88% of students earned a passing score, exceeding the goal standard of 85%. Preparation of students will continue until the state testing dates of May 17-18.



Curriculum Goal Attainment - Science

- EMS Goal : ***For the 2010-2011 school year, students in grades six through eight will participate in learning activities to raise their awareness of science careers, and to gain understanding into the preparation appropriate for those careers. 95% of eighth grade students will develop a career related learning product.*** Career instruction was provided in grades 6-8. Nine out of ten 8th grade classes have completed the assessment, with 97% student participation. One class with seven students has planned to complete this activity in May.
- Looking Ahead: 2011-12 SY
 - MHS: Differentiated Instruction PGP's
 - MHS/EMS: Lab measurement and data manipulation goals
 - Ongoing curriculum work with Campbell teachers



Additional Science Highlights

- Curriculum Review - all levels
 - NJCCCS alignment
 - NJDOE resources – CAD's, templates, Course core content, Technology Toolbox
 - Articulation of learning progressions
- Emphasis on “Big Ideas” and foundational concepts – all levels
- Implementation of Biological Science course – MHS
- Design of Ecology & Environmental Science course to be implemented in 2011-12SY-MHS
- Implementation of USA TestPrep online formative assessment for biology classes – MHS
- Career Awareness instruction at EMS and MHS
- SmartBoard installation and development of lessons – EMS
- Acquisition of video microscope through MEF grant - EMS



Additional Science Highlights

- Science Fairs
 - Campbell – 250 students presented 125 projects
 - Edgar – 140 students presented 100 experimental projects
- Over 80 Virtual Field Trips in a variety of disciplines
- New/ enhanced units - EMS
 - Monarch butterflies – 7th grade
 - Pond ecology simulation – 7th grade
 - Continued and expanded use of Green Schools energy labs
- Looking Ahead: 2011-12 SY
 - Implement Ecol & Env Sci; develop 3rd course in sequence
 - Align AP Bio with planned revisions in AP Test
 - Support curriculum, instructional and professional development



Gifted & Talented Highlights

MHS

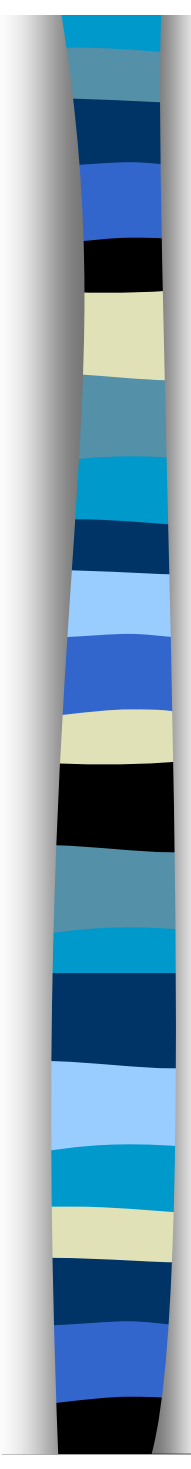
- Governor's School – two students nominated, one accepted into Gov. Sch. of Engineering & Technology
- Science League – five teams – Bio I & II, Chem I & II, Physics
 - One student 9/725; 10 students in top third; Bio I team 22/143
- 20 students attended Arts High School

EMS

- 21 Students participating in ROGATE class
- 25 Students participated in Science Bowl competition
- 11 Students participated in Academic Bowl competition
- 18 students attended Arts Middle School

Campbell

- 4 ICE “Living in Space” rocket launch competition for 4th grade
- Implementation of revised placement criteria for UL



Curriculum Goal Attainment - Health & Physical Education

- To promote Cardiovascular Fitness in grades K-12
- We will be finishing our documentation on the Strong Minds Strong Body Goal @ Edgar
- Determining levels of fitness training by testing resting heart rate
- All of H& PE Staff did peer observations at different school districts around the state.
- Teachers attending both Project Adventure and state NJAHPER conventions.



Additional Health & Physical Education Highlights

Student Achievements

- Presidential Challenge completed by middle and high school students in the fall and spring. Compares them with same age group on both the state and national levels.
- All ninth grade students participated in Project Adventure Leadership and Problem Solving Program.
- All eighth grade students recorded their resting heart rate to track their fitness levels in accordance with Edgar's "Strong Mind, Strong Body" goal.
- Cardiovascular fitness was stressed for all students K – 12



Additional Health & Physical Education Highlights

Curriculum Initiatives

- **Peer visitation to other school districts by grades 1 – 12 Health and PE Staff**
- **Staff went to various schools to observe curriculum and look for innovative ideas in the Health and Physical Education Field.**
- **Schools Visited: East Brunswick Elementary School.**
- **Monroe HS, Monroe MS, Bridgewater HS**
- **Dance classes in High School Physical Education Classes**
- **Physical Education teachers attended the NJ State Project Adventure workshop**
- **Physical Education teachers attended the state NJAHPER Conference**
- **Incorporated various forms of fitness training (PX 90, insanity) into classes**



Additional Health & Physical Education Highlights

Resource Implementation

- After peer visitations were complete many new ideas were implemented into all levels of Physical Education Classes
- In cooperation with Dr. Rosann Kamin, cultural dance classes were incorporated into the high school Physical Education Classes in May
- Other dance classes are being prepared for next year.

Planning and Writing

- Planning for the writing of the middle school health curriculum is a priority for the five year plan being developed district wide.
- Two dance classes are being prepared for next year



Additional Health & Physical Education Highlights

- **Identified Needs**

- District wide emphasis on Fitness combat obesity in school age children in all grade levels. Concentration on cardiovascular fitness and nutrition education as the best way to fight childhood obesity.
- Identify the development of fitness by tracking resting heart rate in middle school students through the “Strong Mind Strong Body” goal
- Development of teamwork, leadership skills, and problem solving methods to improve self esteem in 9th grade students and help improve class unity

- **Approaches Being Taken**

- Use of warm up skills involving dynamic stretch and core strength conditioning incorporating exercises all students can use. Warm ups for cardio training.
- Incorporating Presidential Challenge into the middle and High School PE classes



Additional Health & Physical Education Highlights

Professional Development

- Identified Needs
- Need to observe other schools and use of web site PEUniverse.com to continually update and improve on our own Physical Education program.
- Continued instruction on low ropes course including advanced training in problem solving.



Additional Health & Physical Education Highlights

Professional Development Highlights

- Peer Observations of various school systems
- Recording of data for Edgar School goal
- Inclusion of dance classes in the high school physical education classes
- HS and Elementary Schools now do their lesson plans electronically.
- Staff trained in the use of instant response devices (clickers) for formative assessment in health classes.



Athletics Highlights

Total Participants

- Fall 256
- Winter 192
- Spring 220



Athletics Highlights - Fall Champions

- Boys' Cross Country

Blue Division Champions

4 All Blue Division Athletes

- Girls' Cross Country

Blue Division Champions

GMC Champions

8 All Blue Division Athletes &

Jennifer Lasko and Anna Lignell were All GMC Athletes

- Boys' Soccer

Blue Division Champions

Sectional Finalists

(15 game unbeaten streak tied school record)

2 All Blue Division Athletes and Stefan Antosiewicz All County Athlete

- Girls' Soccer (16-5)

Sectional Finalists

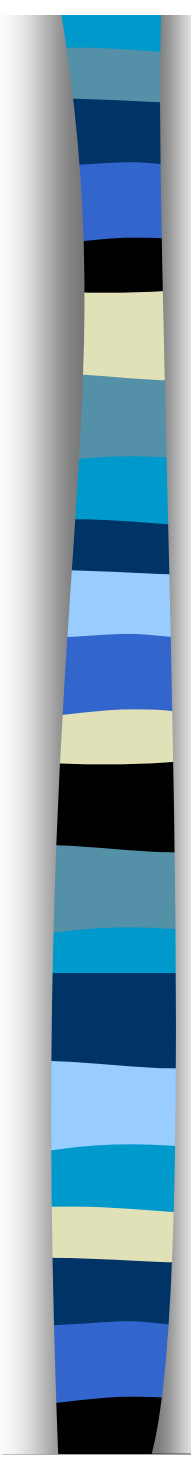
4 All Blue Division Athletes, 2 All State Athletes and **Sara Corson and Jill McVicker were named to the NJGSCA Central Top 20 Team Sara Corson was nominated for All-America. She was chosen as an All-East Region Player by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America for the second year in a row.**

- Field Hockey

Alex Gassaway and Elizabeth Nadler were 1st team all county and Second Team All State

- Football

5 All Blue Division and 1 All Conference



Athletics Highlights - Winter Champions

- **Boys Winter Track** Blue Division Champions & Blue Division Relay Champions
NJSIAA State Sectional Champions
10 First Team All Blue Division Athletes
- **Girls Winter Track** Blue Division Champions & Blue Division Relay Champions
11 1st team Athletes All Blue Division Athletes
- **Wrestling** Jake Freed 1st Team All Blue Division
- **Girls' Swimming** 10 – 3, Summer Thomas & Jillian Delacruz All White Division and 1st Team All GMC
- **Boys Swimming** 9 – 3 White Division Champions,
7 All White Division Athletes
- **Girls' Basketball** 16 – 9 record and State Semi finalist
1 All Blue Division Player
- **Boys' Basketball** NJSIAA Quarter Finalists, Mike Crusco 1st Team All Blue Division,
scored 1,000 career points



Athletics Highlights - Current Spring Teams

- Baseball 14 – 6 - 1
- Softball 12 - 5
- Tennis Currently 10 – 6 overall and 9 – 3 division
- Golf **16 – 0 Blue Division Champs**
2 Golfers in NJSIAA Tournament
Peter Kim & Jeremy Nevius
- Boys' Spring Track **5 – 1**
White Division Relay Champions,
Currently tied for White Division Championship
4 X 8 Penn Relay Participants
- Girls' Spring Track **White Division Relay Champions**
White Division Champions, 4 X 8 Penn Relay Participants



Curriculum Highlights

Thank You!