

Curricula and scheduling ideas for 2012-2013

First draft

BOE meeting January 5, 2012

Goals

- Maximize instructional time
- Reduce/ eliminate pull outs
- Increase rigor and exposure to science for all students
- Strengthen Academically Gifted Program
 - Restructure AGP to align with K-12 science initiative.
- Continue and bolster technology initiatives

Why Science?

- STEM- Science Technology Engineering Math
- MST- Math Science Technology
 - National agenda
 - Investing in innovation (i3)
 - State agenda
 - “A very significant number of the jobs of the future – the jobs that our current elementary, middle and high school students will have – will be in the STEM fields, whether it’s in health care or new technologies or the green economy,” King added. “So it’s critical for our state’s long-term economic success that we have more students prepared to succeed in the STEM subjects.” **Commissioner John King 11/30/11**

Pre K- Grade 2

- Hour block for lunch incorporates lunch, recess and PE. Why?
- 5 day special rotation (40 minute period), shared staff morning-afternoon schedule
 - Spanish 2x per week, Library 1x, Music 1x, Art 1x
- Hire additional librarian- each building will have its own
 - Librarian will serve as media specialist as well
- Adopt the pilot program “Knowing Science- Kid Knowledge”
 - K-2 science curriculum
 - Stresses the use of scientific language as children explore content

Jackson Avenue

- MST- (STEM)
 - For all students create a new ‘special’
 - science laboratory experience 1x a week
 - Use reinstated grant money to build new lab
 - Specials will be on a 6 day cycle
 - 3x PE, 1x music, 1x art, 1x MST
- Music
 - Expand instrumental instruction for all 3rd graders
 - Continue ‘mass prep’ PLC’s by grade level with students divided into one of the following specials:
 - orchestra, band, art and or computers
 - Lesson rotation built into lunch and recess periods
 - Students scheduled 1x per 6 day cycle

Middle School

- Return to secondary schedule (10 minute longer day)
 - 8 period day- 51 minute periods
 - Return of lunch lab duty period
- 5th and 6th grade
 - All classes have a 3 period block before lunch and a 2 period block after lunch
 - “passing” limited
- “Specials” rotation
 - New method of delivery
 - 2 periods each have 6 day cycle, which allows for 12 - 50 minute periods of specials
 - PE, Music, FCS, Art, Library, science

Middle School Specials

- Emphasis on Science
 - 5th and 6th grade
 - Each grade will have a science laboratory experience 2 times per cycle
 - Create a new position with a teacher dedicated to coordinating science curriculum in classrooms and supporting that content with lab experiments for all students
 - 7th grade
 - Add a lab period attached to science class every other day (similar to HS)
 - Allows for more time for student to experiment while learning the content
- Art in every grade
- Formal library period for 5th grade to focus on research skills
- Family Consumer Science in 5th and 6th grade as per mandate
- Industrial technology daily for 7th grade as per mandate

Academically Gifted Program

- What is the purpose of this program?
 - Acceleration or enrichment?
- How do you define a gifted child?

	Composite COGAT scores					
Grade	>140	139-130	129-120	119-110	109-100	Total
3	1	5	9	4	3	22
4	0	3	8	4	3	18
5	1	3	12	5	0	21
6	1	5	10	9	2	27
7	1	4	5	3	2	15
	4	20	44	25	10	103

Proposal for new AGP - to be in line with new configuration

- Modify AGP program
 - Establish new entrance criteria based on COGAT composite scores
 - Middle School-
 - Accelerate students in math and science
 - ***In addition to*** current AGP program- Create a multi grade class of top 8 students per grade based on COGAT scores
 - Voluntary program- parents and students must commit for 3 years

Possible MS AGP schedule

Period	5 th Grade	6 th Grade
1	All 18 5 th grade AGP students	Specials
2	16 students- Mixed class- 8 from 5 th and 8 from 6 th	
3	16 students- Mixed class- 8 from 5 th and 8 from 6 th	
4	Specials	All 22 6 th grade AGP students
5	Lunch	Specials
6	Specials	Lunch
7	16 students- Mixed class- 8 from 5 th and 8 th from 6 th	
8	16 students- Mixed class- 8 from 5 th and 8 th from 6 th	

Proposal continued

- Jackson Avenue
 - Future 4th grade (22 students) would experience a 1/2 day program 1 day per cycle in science lab
 - New 3rd grade (identified in January) would also have 1/2 day experience in science lab

Next Steps

- Finalize schedules
 - Hold forums for teacher and parent input
- Calculate effect of program on staffing
 - Expect an increase (fewer excessed teachers)
- BOE decision on AGP program and creation on new Pre-K -7 science curriculum