

Curriculum Department Report to the Board of Education
February Curriculum Department Highlights
February 23, 2022

To: Mr. Watts, Superintendent
Ms. Malone, Chairperson of the Board
Members of the Board of Education

Newport Curriculum Department Vision:

We envision a day when **all leaders** of Newport Independent Schools exhibit high expectations and guarantee excellence of instruction, ensure equitable opportunities and leverage all high quality resources so that students, staff and leaders will **maximize** their fullest potential.

Assessments

MAP - MAP testing window opened January 18 and will close January 28. NWEA research indicates more accurate data when students test in person as opposed to a virtual option. Schools have been encouraged to test all students in person, as situations allow. Due to the MAP window being open during the spike of COVID 3 additional days were added to the testing window to allow schools more time to test quarantined students. School leaders and teachers made every effort to contact students and families to encourage attendance during the window.

School	MAP Completion
Newport Primary School	99%
Newport Intermediate School	99%
Newport High School	97%

District Interim Assessment - The second District Interim Assessment window for all buildings opened February 1 and closed February 11. Assessment vendor has been made aware that all testing has been completed and the company is validating testing results. Upon validation, results will be available to teachers and leaders for the purpose of analyzing student performance and identifying next steps of instruction for all stakeholders.

English Language Learners - EL Access Assessment began January 21 and the window closed February 18 for the 2021-22 school year. Newport had a successful completion of ACCESS testing due to the hard work of our EL staff. All Materials were mailed February 17th.

ACT - All 11th grade students at Newport High School and Newport School of Innovation received 2 days of the Torch Prep Blitz Camp. Torch Prep specializes in equipping students with proven test taking skills and strategies that can improve results on the assessment.

State ACT will be administered at Newport High School, Newport School of Innovation, and Newport Regional School during the window of March 8-10. This administration is for all 11th grade students, however, it is not used as part of the proficiency school in accountability. State ACT is offered free of charge to gauge post secondary readiness of junior level students. NHS will use data from the state administration to provide structured courses that promote the development of skills assessed on the ACT.

District ACT - District administration of the ACT will take place during the window of April 12-14 for both Newport High School and Newport School of Innovation. This administration is an opportunity paid for by the district and is open to all 10th and 12th graders. All 10th graders will take the assessment in order to use data to accurately improve

instruction and provide appropriate remediation during their 11th grade year. Using this approach, NHS will be able to compare 10th to 11th scores to improve curriculum and instruction components within reading and math. Any 12th grader who needs to retake the assessment for postsecondary readiness or college admission has the opportunity to participate during this administration.

Summer Learning

District and School leaders are in the beginning stages of summer school preparation. Most recently, staff members were asked to confirm participation in 4 weeks of summer learning. All schools will implement a summer program similar to the model used last summer. Each school will run a summer learning program, in conjunction with the schools 21st Century Program, June 6 - July 1, 2022. Summer learning will include instruction based on identified standards and will incorporate field trips and enrichment activities. Students will be given a pre-assessment to help guide planning of effective instruction and ensure it meets the needs of the enrolled students. A post-assessment will be given to determine mastery of standards and evaluate the effectiveness of the summer learning program. The district will pay certified and classified staff \$50 an hour using ESSER and 21st Century funding to address learning needs associated with the pandemic. Summer School learning guidance has been shared with building principals to help in the planning and facilitation of summer learning. Meetings with schools leaders, district leaders, and 21st Century Program coordinators will continue throughout the next 2 months to coordinate efforts for successful planning.

Federal Funding

School Improvement Funds (SIF) - Newport Primary and Newport Intermediate School both received awards letters from the Kentucky Department of Education for new SIF funds. Prior to Winter Break, both schools completed applications using funds on evidence based practices as identified in the school needs assessment. As of February, KDE has approved both applications, granting the schools to use the funds for the 22-23 school year. Both schools, and the district, currently receive a SIF award from previous funding. Monitoring of those funds from KDE is standard and expected. During monitoring from KDE last year, our district had a clean monitoring visit with no findings and several strengths of the use of funding.

Title I, Part A

Building administrators and district Title I coordinator are meeting to review and revise current year (FY21) Title I, Part A School Wide Programs and budgets. Also, these teams are in the process of completing a draft budget and School Wide Program for the FY22 school year based on the 90% Hold Harmless. Drafted budgets will be completed by the first of June 2022. Budget and program revisions will be completed as needed based on the final allocations, based on KDE notified sometime in September 2022.

The district Title I, Part A coordinator is in the process of completing a systematic process in preparation for a KDE Consolidated Monitoring Visit. Selected districts, at least 10 per year, are notified in November and the monitoring visit occurs in January or February. The drafted process has been shared with the superintendent and will be communicated with the cabinet and building leaders on March 7th. The district will conduct a mock monitoring visit by June 2022 to ensure that the district has documentation for all components of the scoring rubric.

Continuous Improvement Monitoring

Under federal/state laws and regulations monitoring of **Comprehensive School Improvement Plans(CSIP)** are required. The plan and its implementation shall be regularly monitored and revised as necessary based on student needs to ensure that all students are provided opportunities to meet Kentucky's challenging academic standards and ensure continuous improvement. A process to monitor these plans has been developed. The first monitoring session will begin in the next week. A 30-60-90 Day Plan monitoring meeting will occur every 30 days. The goal is to review evidence of implementation, impact checks, and evaluation of the effectiveness based on the strategies, activities, and aligned allocations within each schools' CSIP. This provides an opportunity to periodically gauge whether the school is on course to reach its goals and in the event the school is not, the school will reassess the plan and adjust accordingly. This process will uncover possible areas of needed support within our continuous improvement efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Ball

Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Carla Davis

Director of Federal Programs

Jennifer Steidel-Jones

Curriculum Resource Specialist

Darla Payne

Director of Curriculum and Instruction