

Curriculum Department Report to the Board of Education
Curriculum Department Highlights
October 23, 2024

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.

Chief Academic Officer & Director District Wide-Services

DISTRICT WALKTHROUGHS - INSTRUCTIONAL ROUNDS

Purpose of District Walkthroughs and Instructional Rounds

The purpose of district walkthroughs and instructional rounds is to enhance instructional quality and promote continuous professional growth across all schools in our district. These initiatives allow for a structured and collaborative approach to observing, reflecting, and improving teaching practices, ensuring alignment with district goals and state standards.

Key Objectives:

Data-Driven Improvement:

Walkthroughs and instructional rounds provide the opportunity to gather qualitative data about instructional practices, student engagement, and classroom culture. This information is used to inform targeted professional development, curriculum adjustments, and strategic planning.

Collaboration and Reflection:

Instructional rounds bring together district leaders, school administrators, and instructional coaches to observe teaching in action. The post-observation discussions encourage reflection on instructional practices and help identify strengths and areas for improvement. This collaborative approach builds a shared understanding of effective teaching strategies.

Alignment with Strategic Priorities:

These processes ensure that classroom practices are aligned with the district's instructional framework, ensuring consistency in high-quality teaching and learning. The observations help track progress toward the district's academic goals, particularly in core areas such as literacy and numeracy.

Supporting Educator Development:

The feedback gathered through these walkthroughs is used to support teachers in their professional growth. It fosters a culture of continuous improvement by providing constructive feedback in a supportive manner, promoting deeper learning and reflection on instructional practices.

Impact on Student Achievement:

Ultimately, these efforts aim to enhance student outcomes by refining and strengthening instructional practices district-wide. By focusing on research-based strategies and fostering

collaboration among educators, we can make informed decisions to close achievement gaps and raise proficiency levels for all students.

Below are the links to the data from both Newport Primary School and Newport Intermediate School's walkthrough data.

[NPS Walk Through Report 10-1-24.pdf](#)

[NIS Walk through report 10-15-24.pdf](#)

These district walkthroughs and instructional rounds represent our commitment to instructional excellence, ongoing professional development, and improved student achievement. We look forward to working collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure the success of these initiatives.

Next Steps:

- Continued collaboration with principals and instructional coaches to schedule regular rounds.
- Analyzing data from initial rounds to identify trends and areas for district-wide professional development.

STATE ACCOUNTABILITY PRESENTATION

Purpose of Kentucky's State Accountability System

Kentucky's accountability system is designed to measure and ensure the success of schools in preparing students for college, career, and life readiness. The system evaluates school and district performance across multiple indicators, offering a comprehensive view of student achievement and school effectiveness. The primary goals of the system include:

1. Ensuring Equity:
The accountability system emphasizes equitable access to quality education for all students, focusing on closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. This ensures that all students, regardless of background, have the support they need to succeed.
2. Improving Student Outcomes:
By monitoring key performance areas such as proficiency, growth, graduation rates, and postsecondary readiness, the accountability system provides valuable insights into how well schools are meeting academic standards and preparing students for their future.
3. Driving Continuous Improvement:
Schools and districts receive performance data that highlight strengths and areas for improvement. This data-driven approach fosters a cycle of continuous improvement, enabling targeted interventions and instructional strategies that address specific needs.
4. Transparency and Accountability:
The system is designed to be transparent, allowing parents, educators, and stakeholders to clearly understand how schools are performing. The accountability data informs decisions at all levels, from instructional practices to resource allocation.

Key Performance Indicators:

Kentucky's accountability system includes several key indicators:

- Proficiency in reading, mathematics, social studies, writing, and science.
- Academic Growth, particularly for students in elementary and middle schools.
- Graduation Rates for high schools.
- College and Career Readiness to measure how well students are prepared for postsecondary success.
- Opportunity and Access to examine equitable learning opportunities for all students.

District Performance Overview:

Attached to this message is a presentation that provides a summary of our district's performance under Kentucky's accountability system. In this presentation, you will find:

- **Proficiency data** showing how our students performed in core subjects.
- **Growth metrics** highlighting progress made by our students over time.
- **Graduation and readiness indicators** that demonstrate how well we are preparing our students for life beyond high school.

This data will guide our ongoing efforts to close achievement gaps, support professional learning for educators, and implement interventions where necessary. Our focus will continue to be on fostering an environment where every student has the opportunity to thrive.

[Glows-and-Grows-Improving-State-Test-Scores.pptx](#)

Respectfully Submitted,

Katina Brown

Director of District Wide Services

Darla Payne

Chief Academic Officer