

Fleetwood Area School District Report  
by Drs. Paul Eaken and Bethany Bosold

*Curriculum Mapping*

This past summer, district administrators worked intensively with teachers throughout the district to introduce and begin working on mapping our curriculum. Curriculum mapping is the process of aligning our curriculum with the state and common core national standards by periods of time such as a grading period and a school year. By laying out the progression of units, content, skills, and assessments within each course, we help our teachers and students learn the curriculum within the time frame required by the standards.

Curriculum maps allow teachers to determine a clear focus on which skills and content are most important and in what order they should be taught. The maps also help teachers who are teaching the same course provide consistency in their instruction. The maps are developed utilizing web based software which also includes links to key resources and documents for use with a particular lesson or unit.

Teachers across all disciplines and grade levels continue to work on this project on teacher in-service days. Teachers in English language arts, and math are now required to align their curriculum with the Common Core Standards that were adopted by the Pennsylvania State Board of Education in 2010. These Common Core Standards have been adopted by 46 states in the nation. They set rigorous expectations for literacy and numeracy across the curriculum and define a progression of skills from grades K – 12 to help students to be college and career ready.

In addition to standards in English language arts and math, there are literacy standards in history/social studies, science and technical subjects. There are standards for each grade level that spell out end of year expectations, allowing flexibility to each school district to determine the courses to be taught and how the standards will be met. Students are expected to read, write and communicate at high levels in all content areas. Research skills and the use of many forms of media are also expected across subject areas. The standards are designed so that as students advance through the grades and master the standards, they continue to increase and expand their ability to read, write, speak, listen and use language.

College and career readiness is the expected outcome of teaching the standards. Students are expected to learn content, but also to demonstrate qualities of an effective learner. These include such areas as: demonstrating independence; building strong content knowledge; comprehending and critiquing; responding to different audiences and demands; valuing evidence; using technology and media strategically and capably; and, understanding other perspectives and cultures.

Pennsylvania is planning full implementation of the Common Core Standards by July 1, 2013. The state is developing a new assessment based on the Common Core Standards which is to be implemented in 2014.

*Upcoming Events in the Fleetwood Area School District*

*February 17 – School in session (emergency closing make-up day)*

*February 20 – Presidents Day, No School*

*The Board of School Directors will hold meetings on February 14<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup>, both at 7:00 pm.*

