

Annual Education Report

2008–2009

Loy Norrix High School

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Vision of School Reform at Loy Norrix High School

In keeping with the district's mission as well as the mission of Loy Norrix High School, this school has implemented a building wide reform effort that seeks to support the need for increased academic rigor, curricular relevance, and improved relationships between adults and students as paramount to school improvement efforts. Specifically, this work addresses three broad areas of reform: organizational/structural, curricular, and instructional. Using the federally funded small learning communities' model, the vision of high school reform at Loy Norrix is that all students will develop the academic, social, and intra-personal skills necessary to make meaningful connections to school and to their future through experiencing relevant, rigorous instruction, personal growth, and success at Loy Norrix High School.

Superintendent: Dr. Michael F. Rice

Principal: Mr. Johnny Edwards, Jr.

2008–09 Board of Education

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Kalamazoo Public Schools

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Overview of School

Accreditation Status & Education YES! Grades

The chart below identifies our buildings accreditation status and grades as determined by Education YES!

Education Yes! Report Card	2008 – 2009		2007 – 2008	
	Score	Grade	Score	Grade
Mathematics	F		56.1	F
English Language Arts	F		59.3	F
Science	D		62.3	D
Social Studies	D		59.8	D
Achievement Subtotal	F		59.4	F
Indicators of School Performance	A		100	A
Preliminary	D		73	D
AYP Status	Met AYP- N		Met AYP- N	
Composite Grade	D-alert		D-alert	
Michigan Accreditation Status *	Accredited		Accredited	

* Schools continue to be accredited unless they receive a D Alert grade, at which point they become designated as unaccredited for the state of Michigan

Retention Rate

Retention rate means the proportion of students who have not dropped out of school.

Retention Rate	
2007-08	2008-09
82%	83%

2008–2009 Highlights

The LNHS Class of 2009 had 11 Valedictorians (GPA 4.0 or above) and 7 Salutatorians (GPA 3.9).

Seniors Mackenzie Caple, John Stankewicz and Robin Veeck were announced as finalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Senior Anita Tung was named a Commended Student.

Heyl Scholarship were offered to the following LNHS students:

Luis Basurto-Jimenez
Mackenzie Caple
Katie Miller
Mitch Miller
John Stankewicz
Charlie Winnard
Ashley Raab – WMU Bronson School of Nursing

27 Juniors and Seniors were inducted into the National Honor Society (GPA 3.5 or higher).

Art Scholarships were awarded to:

Anita Tung (Rhode Island School of Design)
Ellen Nelson (U. of Michigan)
Elise Head (Kendall College)

2008–2009 Highlights (cont.)

Knight Life was awarded the Spartan Award, which is the top ranking award from the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association. Over 3,000 newspaper entries were submitted to the individual contests.

Over 60 sophomores, juniors and seniors participated in the Loy Norrix Ignite Mentoring Program. 30 Mentors went to visit the incoming 8th graders on three separate occasions, presenting valuable information about having a successful transition to high school.

Loy Norrix Latin students have carried on the tradition for excellence in the annual National Latin Exam competition. LN students won 30 awards. Joe Billian, Megan Davis and Evan Klee-Peregon won gold medals competing in Level III and Faiz Khaja and Stuart Wheaton had perfect papers competing at Level I.

Loy Norrix Athletics

Girls' Basketball- SMAC Central Division Champions, 6th Year in a row
Girls' Basketball Coach Damian Smith- SMAC Central Coach of the Year, 2nd Year in a row
Boys' Basketball Coach Matt Covault- SMAC Central Coach of the Year, 2nd Year in a row
Talisha Bridges, SMAC Central Player of the Year-Girls' Basketball, Special Mention Associated Press All State, Athletic Scholarship to University of New Orleans-NCAA Division I
Monica Tung, Girls' Swimming, Yale-NCAA Division I
Hannah Labadie, Girls' Soccer, Cornell-NCAA Division I
Andrew Darrell, Class of 2010, All-State Tennis Player
Elexis Buchanan, Class of 2009, New School Shot Put Record 119'

Parent Involvement

Parent-Teacher Conference Attendance Rates				
School	Fall 2008		Spring 2009	
	#	%	#	%
Loy Norrix	331	26	245	20

Parent Involvement Policy

District Policy

The District will consistently work, in a variety of ways, to strengthen meaningful family participation in the education of their children.

Loy Norrix's Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to participate in the Parents Association, the school improvement team and other school enrichment activities. Parent involvement is assessed through the yearly parent survey.

Highly Qualified Staff

- 100% of the staff is teaching in their credential area of experience.
- No teachers with emergency or provision credentials are teaching in either the high or low poverty schools.
- No teachers are teaching in the classroom in either the high or low poverty schools that are not highly qualified.
- 5 Administrators; 1 with a Masters+30; 4 with a Masters Degree
- 78 teachers; 35 with a Bachelors Degree; 36 with a Masters Degree; and 6 with a Masters+30; 1 with a Doctorate
- All Title I instructional paraprofessionals are compliant with the NCLB requirements for highly qualified.

School Improvement Plan

Reading	
Goal:	All students will be proficient in Reading on the Michigan Merit Exam (MME).
Data to support goal selection:	LNHS has analyzed our Standardized test data for the MME, EdPerformance, READ 180, PLAN, and the ACT.
Planned Strategies and Interventions:	All LNHS teachers will use a research based strategy called Building Academic Background Knowledge using explicit vocabulary instructional methods. Students who have low reading levels will enroll in a Strategic Reading course.
Accomplishments:	Students enrolled in the Strategic Reading courses have increased their reading levels as much as three reading levels in one school year. We have increased the total number of students enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) courses.
Implications for next year:	We have targeted teacher Professional Development design to assist teachers with teaching students the academic vocabulary associated with each content area.

Writing	
Goal:	All students will be proficient in Writing on the Michigan Merit Exam.
Data to support goal selection:	LNHS has analyzed our Standardized test data for the MME, EdPerformance, READ 180, PLAN, and the ACT.
Planned Strategies and Interventions:	All teachers will use a research based strategy called John Collins writing.
Accomplishments:	Loy Norrix High School has an award winning Journalism program that has received recognition from various organizations throughout the state of Michigan.
Implications for next year:	Each student will have a cumulative writing folder that will showcase of their writings for the entire school year.

Math	
Goal:	All students will be proficient in Math on the Michigan Merit Exam.
Data to support goal selection:	LNHS has analyzed our Standardized test data for the MME, EdPerformance, PLAN, and the ACT.
Planned Strategies and Interventions:	All LNHS mathematics teachers will us an anticipatory set with Algebra Everyday.
Accomplishments:	LNHS has steadily increased the number of 9th grade students enrolled in Geometry.
Implications for next year:	Students with difficulty in math will have the opportunity to earn 2 credits in Algebra II.

School Improvement Plan

Science	
Goal:	All students will be proficient in Science on the Michigan Merit Exam.
Data to support goal selection:	LNS has analyzed our Standardized test data for the MME, EdPerformance, PLAN, and the ACT.
Planned Strategies and Interventions:	All LNHS science teachers will use Visual learning techniques to teach data interpretation and charts using a software called InspireData.
Accomplishments:	Five LNHS graduates from the class of 2009 were awarded the Heyl Scholarship which requires a student to have completed biology, chemistry, physics and four years of math with an interest in pursuing a science, math, or nursing related degree.
Implications for next year:	LNHS will increase our AP science offerings from 1 to 2. We are adding AP Biology in addition to AP Chemistry.

Social Studies	
Goal:	All students will be proficient in Social Studies on the Michigan Merit Exam.
Data to support goal selection:	LNHS has analyzed our Standardized test data for the MME, EdPerformance, PLAN, and the ACT.
Planned Strategies and Interventions:	All LNHS Social Studies teachers develop and use common formative assessments throughout the curriculum to measure student learning.
Accomplishments:	Our highest percentage of students proficient on the MME is on the Social Studies component of the test.
Implications for next year:	LNHS Social Studies department has the most AP offerings in the school.



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School Assessment Data

Michigan Merit Exam – MME: READING/ LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

Student Group 11th Grade MME	School Year	School % of Students Proficient & Advanced	District % of Students Proficient & Advanced	State % of Students Proficient & Advanced	% Tested in School	% of Students in School at Each Achievement Level			
						Advanced	Proficient	Basic	Below Basic
All Students	2007-08	40	39	52	72	2	38	37	23
	2008-09	37	44	52	90	3	34	32	31
African American	2007-08	17	19	23	62	0	17	52	31
	2008-09	16	69	24	96	0	16	35	49
American Indian/Native Alaskan	2007-08			46					
	2008-09			38					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2007-08		36	63					
	2008-09		69	64					
Hispanic	2007-08	22	18	30	71	0	22	33	44
	2008-09	33	38	35	92	0	33	17	50
White	2007-08	61	65	59	80	4	57	26	12
	2008-09	57	66	59	84	7	50	35	7
Students with Disabilities	2007-08	4	5	11	51	0	4	22	74
	2008-09	7	11	14	100	0	7	22	71
Limited English Proficient	2007-08	0	5	12	63	0	0	29	71
	2008-09	15	17	12	100	0	15	19	67
Economically Disadvan- taged	2007-08	18	20	31	70	0	18	49	33
	2008-09	21	23	32	100	0	21	35	44
Migrant	2007-08			13					
	2008-09			27					
Male	2007-08	34	33	48	63	2	32	38	28
	2008-09	34	34	47	90	3	31	32	34
Female	2007-08	45	44	57	81	3	42	36	20
	2008-09	40	53	57	91	3	37	32	28

Michigan Merit Exam – MME: MATH

Student Group 11th Grade MME	School Year	School % of Students Proficient & Advanced	District % of Students Proficient & Advanced	State % of Students Proficient & Advanced	% Tested in School	% of Students in School at Each Achievement Level			
						Advanced	Proficient	Basic	Below Basic
All Students	2007-08	35	35	46	71	6	29	15	51
	2008-09	35	40	49	90	8	26	12	53
African American	2007-08	9	15	13	61	0	9	16	74
	2008-09	15	19	16	96	0	15	9	76
American Indian/Native Alaskan	2007-08			35					
	2008-09			36					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2007-08		45	67					
	2008-09		81	72					
Hispanic	2007-08	19	17	28	71	7	11	19	63
	2008-09	33	38	32	92	13	21	4	63
White	2007-08	55	57	53	79	8	47	12	33
	2008-09	53	61	56	84	17	36	17	30
Students with Disabilities	2007-08	7	7	8	51	0	7	4	89
	2008-09	5	5	10	100	0	5	0	95
Limited English Proficient	2007-08	0	6	18	63	0	0	12	88
	2008-09	19	22	20	100	7	11	4	78
Economically Disadvan- taged	2007-08	15	17	25	71	4	11	15	70
	2008-09	19	22	29	100	2	18	10	71
Migrant	2007-08			13					
	2008-09			32					
Male	2007-08	37	36	49	61	6	31	13	50
	2008-09	35	37	52	90	13	23	10	55
Female	2007-08	33	33	43	80	7	26	15	51
	2008-09	34	42	47	91	4	30	14	51

Michigan Merit Exam – MME: SOCIAL STUDIES

Student Group 11th Grade MME Social Studies	School Year	School % of Students Proficient & Advanced	District % of Students Proficient & Advanced	State % of Students Proficient & Advanced	% Tested in School	% of Students in School at Each Achievement Level			
						Advanced	Proficient	Basic	Below Basic
All Students	2007-08	71	71	80	72	31	40	16	13
	2008-09	68	71	81	90	32	36	12	21
African American	2007-08	56	57	56	63	8	48	24	20
	2008-09	50	55	58	96	9	41	16	34
American Indian/Native Alaskan	2007-08			76					
	2008-09			77					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2007-08		82	85					
	2008-09		100	87					
Hispanic	2007-08	48	55	69	71	15	33	26	26
	2008-09	54	63	72	92	38	17	8	38
White	2007-08	85	88	85	80	50	35	10	5
	2008-09	86	88	87	84	52	34	8	5
Students with Disabilities	2007-08	14	17	41	53	4	11	25	61
	2008-09	22	22	49	100	10	12	20	59
Limited English Proficient	2007-08	29	43	45	63	0	29	35	35
	2008-09	41	43	52	100	22	19	11	48
Economically Disadvan- taged	2007-08	58	57	65	71	13	45	22	20
	2008-09	54	54	68	100	16	38	16	30
Migrant	2007-08			63					
	2008-09			63					
Male	2007-08	72	71	80	63	34	38	12	15
	2008-09	68	66	82	90	36	32	11	22
Female	2007-08	70	71	80	82	29	41	19	11
	2008-09	68	75	80	91	28	40	12	20

Michigan Merit Exam – MME: SCIENCE

Student Group 11th Grade MME Sci- ence	School Year	School % of Students Proficient & Advanced	District % of Students Proficient & Advanced	State % of Students Proficient & Advanced	% Tested in School	% of Students in School at Each Achievement Level			
						Advanced	Proficient	Basic	Below Basic
All Students	2007-08	46	45	57	72	5	41	16	38
	2008-09	44	45	56	90	4	39	12	44
African American	2007-08	19	23	22	62	0	19	20	60
	2008-09	20	22	22	96	0	20	15	64
American Indian/Native Alaskan	2007-08			51					
	2008-09			45					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2007-08		55	67					
	2008-09		81	71					
Hispanic	2007-08	30	31	35	71	0	30	19	52
	2008-09	38	38	39	92	0	38	8	54
White	2007-08	68	71	64	80	7	61	12	20
	2008-09	68	70	63	84	10	57	9	23
Students with Disabilities	2007-08	4	7	17	51	0	4	7	89
	2008-09	10	8	15	100	0	10	7	83
Limited English Proficient	2007-08	6	16	15	63	0	6	18	76
	2008-09	26	27	18	100	0	26	7	67
Economically Disadvan- taged	2007-08	24	28	36	71	2	22	20	55
	2008-09	30	27	35	100	0	30	11	60
Migrant	2007-08			16					
	2008-09			29					
Male	2007-08	45	45	58	63	5	40	14	41
	2008-09	44	42	57	90	6	38	13	43
Female	2007-08	47	45	55	82	4	42	18	35
	2008-09	43	47	54	91	3	40	11	46

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Achievement Targets in Relation to AYP Targets and Attendance Rate

Student Group High School	Reading/Language Arts						Mathematics						Additional Academic Indicator		
	Percent Tested			% Proficient & Advanced			Percent Tested			% Proficient & Advanced			Graduation Rate		
	Goal: 95%			Goal: %			Goal: 95%			Goal: %			Goal: 80%		
	School	District	State	School	District	State	School	District	State	School	District	State	School	District	State
All Students	101	96	87	60	66	52	100	97	87	57	65	49	71	64	
African American	107	97	74	38	46	24	107	98	72	37	47	16	58	56	
American Indian/ Native Alaskan	N/A	N/A	85	N/A	N/A	38	N/A	N/A	84	N/A	N/A	36	N/A	N/A	
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	96	N/A	N/A	64	N/A	N/A	96	N/A	N/A	72	N/A	N/A	
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	82	N/A	N/A	35	N/A	N/A	82	N/A	N/A	32	N/A	42	
White	96	94	91	83	85	59	96	94	91	79	84	56	84	77	
Students with Disabilities	117	N/A		21	N/A	14	117	N/A		12	N/A	10	N/A	31	
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	20	N/A	40	
Economically Disadvantaged	103	97		43	47	32	103	98		39	45	29	54	52	



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Required High School Criteria for Current Year and Previous Year

Advanced Placement/College Equivalent Courses

School Year	# of Courses	Course Title(s)	Course Title(s)
2007-08	8	AP Biology	
		AP Calculus AB	
		AP Chemistry	
		AP College English	
		AP European History	
		AP Physics AB	
		AP Studio Art Portfolio	
		AP U.S. History	
2008-09	12	AP Art History	AP Spanish
		AP Biology	AP Studio Art Portfolio
		AP Calculus AB	AP U.S. Government and Politics
		AP Chemistry	AP U.S. History
		AP English: Language & Comp.	
		AP English: Literature & Comp.	
		AP European History	
		AP Physics AB	

Enrollment/Passing Rate

College Equivalent Courses by Grade Level	# of Enrolled Students	% of Enrolled Students	Passing Rate %	# of Enrolled Students	% of Enrolled Students	Passing Rate %
	2007-08	2007-08	2007-08	2008-09	2008-09	2008-09
9th Grade	2	0.3	100	1	0.2	100
10th Grade	24	9.4	91.7	67	22.3	93
11th Grade	23	8.2	100	23	10.2	91.7
12th Grade	57	25.4	95.7	66	24.5	89.4

College Credit/Dual Enrollment

	2007-2008		2008-2009	
	# Students	% of Students	# Students	% of Students
Students Receiving College Credit through Dual Enrollment	51	96	50	86
Students Who Achieved a Score to Receive College Credit	50	66	120	59

Core Curriculum

The purpose of the Kalamazoo Public Schools curriculum is to ensure that all students learn the same essential content based on the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) standards and expectations. The curriculum ensures that students will be able to access, evaluate, and use information in a technology-dependent world. The curriculum provides optimal learning opportunities for all students and is designed to ensure post-secondary success in institutions of higher education and the workplace.

The Process of Curriculum Development and Alignment

As of 2007-2008, curriculum leaders, in conjunction with teachers, have integrated three major approaches to curriculum work in the development model. This model recognizes that creating curriculum guides alone does not enhance student achievement; it is merely the first step. Curriculum work must funnel down to classroom instruction, assessment, and instructional improvement based on data in order to maximize student achievement. As such, the model is focused on the work of Ainsworth, Marzano, Wiggins, and Tomlinson specifically as related to using standards for curriculum development, unit design, lesson design, instruction, differentiated instruction, and assessment (formative and summative). Our current process is indicated below:

- Unpack and prioritize Michigan Department of Education's grade level content standards (i.e., GLCEs and HSCEs).
- Unpack expectations using Ainsworth model of identifying verbs, nouns, concepts, skills, big ideas, essential questions, identify level of Bloom's Taxonomy for each expectation, create assessment items aligned to each prioritized standard
- Prioritize expectations
- Group expectations to create measurement topics
- Create end of course assessments
- Create assessment map
- Chunk
- Create course map and common formative assessments*
- Train team in data analysis
- Create units of instruction using the Understanding by Design (UbD) model
- Implement, assess, reflect, modify for improvement

*Common formative assessments are defined as periodic or interim assessments, collaboratively designed by grade-level or course teams of teachers and administered to all students in a grade level or course several times during the quarter, semester, trimester, or entire school year (Ainsworth, 2006).

The process of revising curriculum guides in the district involves teachers and curriculum leaders collaboratively conducting gap analyses using the following approach, in part, outlined by MDE:

- Standards and expectations published by MDE are identified and prioritized.
- Teams review existing documents to 1) determine whether GLCEs or HSCEs are taught in the curriculum and 2) identify the level of proficiency outcomes should be met.
- Pacing guides are reviewed to determine alignment along with corresponding resources.

Guides requiring revisions adhere to the cycle noted under *Process for Curriculum Development*.

All curriculum guides in the district are based on state standards and expectations. Serving as *living documents*, curriculum guides are reviewed annually to ensure alignment to state expectations and to incorporate needed revisions based on student data, research on best practices, and feedback from all stakeholders. In an effort to increase student achievement and effectively implement the curriculum, teachers across content areas engage in ongoing professional development. The sessions are designed to assist teachers in developing their capacity to a) further study and develop strategies to implement the GLCEs and HSCEs, b) use data to drive instruction, and c) identify areas of interest to strengthen classroom instruction. The district offers a variety of professional growth opportunities: differentiated professional development that allows teachers to develop in areas of interest; grade level/department sessions; school and district-wide sessions based on curriculum, data, and school improvement plans; training for group facilitators and content leaders representing their respective buildings; and voluntary after school sessions to further support instruction.

Several data warehousing systems are accessed to plan and evaluate professional development (building and district level), evaluate the impact of curriculum and instruction on student achievement, and support the development of school improvement plans. At the building level, staff members further align classroom instruction based on results from item analyses, disaggregated data based on subgroups, and noted trends over a period of time. At the district level, both aggregate and disaggregated data are used to establish academic goals, identify programming needs, and plan meaningful and relevant professional development.

The Foundation of Core Courses

All core courses (English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) are based on GLCEs or HSCEs. Students have access to courses across levels with opportunities for differentiated instruction. Resources are aligned to curriculum guides based on state expectations and offer activities to meet diverse learning styles and needs. Classes plan for small and whole group differentiated instruction to ensure that all students have equal and equitable access to appropriate core outcomes. Student data (formative and context-bound) is also used to guide decision making and select appropriate resources. Special education teachers receive core curriculum guides and participate in training to interpret expectations for areas under study. Special education teachers also have the opportunity to work with building teams in identifying best practices for reaching struggling learners. Professional development opportunities with corresponding resources are offered to all teachers in the district

Teaching to Expectations (Units of Study)

Curriculum documents are designed to teach the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) to all students. The units of study are divided into three stages based on the genres to be explicitly taught at each grade level. **Stage 1** of each unit identifies the desired results for all students in a specific grade level. Stage 1 specifies what each student should know, understand, and be able to do at the end of the unit. The “desired results” designates the content worthy of understanding, what enduring understandings are desired, and what essential questions will be explored. Stage 1 calls for clarity about the priorities of the unit. **Stage 2** of each unit determines the acceptable evidence from the desired understandings and content of the unit of study. Stage 2 provides diagnostic, formative, and summative assessment to allow educators to know when students have achieved the desired results of the unit. This stage describes the acceptable evidence of a student’s understanding and proficiency. The assessment evidence reflects the desired results of Stage 1. **Stage 3** of each unit is the instructional plan. Stage 3 suggests the activities, sequence, and resources which are best suited to accomplish the goals established in Stage 1. This stage focuses on the knowledge and skills students need to perform effectively to achieve the desired results. The goal is to make teaching engaging and effective for learners, while always keeping the end in mind.

English Language Arts

The kindergarten through third grade curriculum writing teams drafted reading guides winter 2009. All elementary teachers received draft guides and professional development fall 2009 and 2010. Full implementation of guides in classrooms is scheduled fall 2010.

In the area of writing at the elementary level, teams will assemble during the 2009-2010 school year to review resources. The outcome of the review will drive development of K-5 writing curriculum guides during 2010-2011 with full implementation and professional development in 2011-2012. Serving as living documents, writing teams will review guides yearly to a) incorporate diagnostic assessments, b) adjust expectations for learning experiences based on data, c) include scaffolding and reference materials, and d) strengthen units of study. At the secondary level, teams assembled fall 2009 to review resources and write guides for targeted courses. English curriculum guides drafted in 2007-2008 were scheduled for full implementation during 2009-2010 or 2010-2011. Professional development activities occurred fall 2009 and will in fall 2010. Plans to conduct resources audits for specific elective English courses will occur during 2011-2012 with possible adoption recommendations and curriculum development work in 2012-2013.

Math

A representative group of elementary teachers assembled in fall 2008 to explore options for new resources aligned with state expectations and based on best practices for grades K-5. Following the scheduled resource pilot in January 2009, mathematics leadership team members will identify and recommended a new series in March 2009. Professional development activities were scheduled for late summer and fall 2009 that provided assistance to classroom teachers with using guides and new textbook series to teach grade-level content expectations. During 2008-2010, the curriculum writing team, along with classroom teachers, convened periodically to report on the quality of guides and offered recommendations for improvement. The implementation began in fall 2009 and will be provided with ongoing opportunities for improving guide components and professional development.

With respect to middle school mathematics, the leadership team will review resources during 2009-2010 to investigate quality, relevance in meeting state expectations, and unification of format and content with the K-5 program. Based on findings, the adoption and curriculum development process may occur in 2010-2011 with scheduled professional development in fall 2011. In the meantime, to focus instruction on grade-level content expectations and support instructional practices, mathematics writing teams will assemble in winter 2009 to strengthen currently used guides. In winter 2009, high school curriculum writing teams collaborated with teachers to complete guides drafted during 2007-2008. In fall 2009, teachers received drafts guides and are expected to fully implement the program during 2009-2010. Plans to conduct resource audits for specific elective courses will occur 2010-2011. Revisions in state course expectations will direct future curriculum writing efforts during 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.

Science

During the 2007-2008, the district adopted a K-6 science program developed by Battle Creek Area Mathematics and Science Center (BCAMSC) in Battle Creek, Michigan. BCAMSC curriculum guides contain instructional units aligned with grade level content expectations for life, earth, and physical science strands. On a yearly basis, BCAMSC provides teachers with updated unit activities and curriculum guides (components), includes resources to address realignment needs indicated by MDE, and offers professional development. Over the past two years, the district has phased in units by specific grade levels. In accordance with the final phase of implementation plan, 3rd through 6th grade teacher received the newly realigned science units with curriculum guides and training in fall 2009. consistent with the elementary direction and based on the results of an resource audit conducted in 2007, the science leadership teams will consider piloting BCAMSC units along with other resource options for 7th and 8th grades in spring 2010. Upon approval, the leadership team will deliver professional development sessions during 2010-2011. In the meantime, the 7th grade curriculum writing team assembled in winter 2009 to draft pacing guides and identify supplementary materials for use in fall 2009. Similarly, the 8th grade curriculum writing team assembled in winter 2009 to continue writing pacing guides previously drafted in 2007-2008. Seventh and eighth grade teachers received draft pacing guides in fall 2009 with supporting professional development. Full implementation of the 7th and 8th grade science curriculum guides will occur 2010-2011.

In 2010-2011, curriculum writing teams will implement secondary science guides drafted during 2008-2009. Curriculum teams worked during the summer in writing these guides to provide teachers with drafts and professional development in the fall 2009. Teachers will fully implement revised guides in 2011 with opportunities for improving guide components and professional development. Curriculum writing teams will assemble during 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 to investigate alignment between high school content expectations and currently used textbooks in honors and elective courses. Based on findings, recommendations for adoptions and the subsequent revision of curriculum guides will occur in winter 2010 with professional development during 2010-2011.

Social Studies

To address MDE revisions at the elementary level curriculum writing teams conducted K-5 resource audits to ensure alignment to the grade level content expectations. Teachers will receive draft guides in fall 2010 with supporting professional development. Full implementation of guides is expected fall 2011. At the middle school level, 6th grade recently underwent a textbook adoption and as a result, curriculum writing teams assembled draft curriculum guides that provide direction in implementing the newly adopted series in the fall of 2009. Teachers engaged in professional development in fall 2009 and will continue the work during the year. Full implementation of the revised guide is scheduled fall 2010.

During 2009-10, the middle school social studies curriculum writing team will review grade level content expectations and resources to determine cohesiveness of the 6th and 7th grade courses. Recommendations to shift or redistribute partial content in 7th grade to 6th may occur based on breadth of current MDE social studies topics. This decision will assist with ensuring vertical articulation between courses. Based on resource needs, the curriculum writing team may recommend an adoption during 2009-2010. The 7th grade curriculum writing team will continue drafting curriculum pacing guides during 2009-2010 with full implementation in 2011. In 8th grade, a textbook adoption committee convened in 2007-2008 to conduct a resource audit and pilot selected resources. As a result of the pilot, committee members recommended a new textbook series for adoption in winter 2010. In the meantime, the curriculum writing team will complete 8th grade previously drafted in 2008-2009. Teachers received draft guides in fall 2009 with scheduled professional development. Full implementation of the 8th grade guides with new resources is scheduled 2011.

High school social studies curriculum guides drafted in 2007-2008 are scheduled for full implementation in 2010-2011. To meet timelines, curriculum teams have assembled this year to continue writing guides. Several of these guides will undergo major revisions due to new MDE high school content expectations. Teachers received draft guides in fall 2009 along with professional development. With respect to elective courses, curriculum writing teams will conduct resource audits during 2010-2011 and 2011-2012. Curriculum writing teams may offer recommendations for adoptions based on findings. Writing teams will complete related work with developing curriculum guides between 2011-2012 and 2012-2013.

Variations

All schools use Kalamazoo Public School's curriculum guides that are aligned to MDE expectations and standards. Magnet schools and schools with special themes integrate their specialized areas into the KPS curriculum.