

RESTORING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

In order to maximize opportunities for student success, District 112 has begun to implement a series of new initiatives to ensure a consistent and enriching experience for all students. The following topics are priority areas of focus for the District.



Development of Consistent Curriculum. One of the District's top goals is developing a guaranteed and viable curriculum that ensures that all students have an equal opportunity to learn. This curriculum will include a horizontal sequence of what needs to be learned across individual grade levels, as well as a vertical sequence from grade level to grade level. Each student will have access to the same content, knowledge, and skills in each class, in every school. During the 2017-2018 school year, the following actions have been implemented:

▶ **Math**

- Implemented a new math curriculum resource grades K-8
- Completed middle school math curriculum pacing and developing common assessments
- Contracted with PEAR School Solutions to provide math coaching
- Purchased math intervention materials for grades K-5 for all buildings

▶ **English Language Arts**

- Implemented a new writing curriculum resource grades 1-5
- Starting curriculum and materials review with middle school ELA January 2018
- Starting curriculum and materials review with elementary reading April 2018



Instructional Strategies. All teachers, kindergarten through grade 8, were introduced to cooperative learning strategies that enhance student engagement, increase academic achievement, improve cultural competencies, and develop students' social skills.



Professional Development and Training. The District is increasing efforts to support teachers as new initiatives are introduced to improve teaching and learning. Ongoing professional development opportunities focus on increasing collaboration and knowledge sharing, leveraging current pedagogical research, and



continuing to develop and refine instructional practices to best meet the needs of all learners. Professional development has been provided to K-5 teachers to support the implementation of our new math and writing curriculum resources.



Special Education. The Board has approved the relocation of the Structured Teaching Education Program (STEP) and Life Skills Education and Academic Program (LEAP) to Sherwood Elementary School for the 2018-2019 school year. Additionally, the Social Academic Integrated Learning Program (SAIL) will move from its current location at Lincoln Elementary to Braeside Elementary. There are several reasons for these changes, including converging curricular resources, declining enrollment in the programs, need for ADA accessibility, opportunity for teacher collaboration, resource sharing, and the ability to better focus on each student's individualized learning needs.



Dual Language Program. Dual Language Immersion is a Spanish and English program option for students in Kindergarten through 8th grade designed to support English language learners. Next school year current Sherwood Elementary Dual Language students will attend Red Oak Elementary and current Red Oak monolingual students will attend Sherwood Elementary. Selection criteria for enrolling new students into the program is also effective for the upcoming school year. Dual Language teachers are currently undergoing professional development and additional educational resources are being developed in conjunction with other Teaching and Learning initiatives. These changes are intended to increase teacher collaboration and resource sharing in an effort to more effectively achieve the three goals of the K-5 Dual Language program: biliteracy and bilingualism, grade level academic achievement, and intercultural competence.