

Communique from Common Core Steering Committee Meeting October 2014

The Steering Committee met Oct. 20th after school at the District office.

Staff Development

We heard a report on the professional development support offered this school year for Common Core instruction. The focus has been on giving teachers strategies to use in the classroom to meet CC state standards. Staff Development takes a variety of forms from your PLC meetings, staff meetings, model lessons and coaching done by Specialists and afterschool or during school work shops. Professional development is paid for from a variety of sources.

2014/2015 Staff Development	
Staff Development	Funding Sources
UPO/CIA Elementary	LCAP
UPO/CIA Secondary	LCAP
GO MATH Elementary Digital	CCSS
GO MATH Secondary	CCSS
Achieve 3000	CCSS
Close Reading K-5	Title II
Growth Mindset	Title II
Close Reading 6-12 (Spring)	Title II
Math Talks 4-5	Title II
Refinement	Title II
PLC Cohort	Title II
Smartboard Training	CCSS

In addition, refinement teams for UPOs and assessments have continued work to update and improve resources for all CC teachers. These teams will meet 4 days this year. The first one is November 6th. The PLC Cohorts also meet 4 days this year.

Note that the weekly VAPA period at elementary schools (which alternates between PLC meetings and personal planning time related to Common Core instruction) is being paid for through Common Core funds, and will last through the end of this school year.

Go Math trainers are willing to come out to sites to work with groups of teachers or even individual teachers on using the company's resources. There is no cost to the school district for them to come out to do this.

Smartboard training dates have been set for the year and sessions repeat throughout. Check out the dates to attend any of the sessions that you need [here](#).

Infinite Campus

The team discussed challenges teachers are facing using Infinite Campus. The district is aware of many of the concerns teachers have with the IC Grade Book. As teachers provide feedback, plans are developed to be responsive to the organizational needs. Ingrid Taylor has provided holes that need to be filled in the grading program. Ingrid Taylor has been assigned to providing more detailed training at schools on using Infinite Campus for grades, following an initial training by 4 trainers at all sites. A data base programmer has been hired (funding through Infinite Campus) and will begin work Nov. 10, 2014 for TVUSD. The programmer can make changes to IC in response to teacher concerns. Teachers are encouraged to email Ingrid Taylor or Joe Balleweg about suggested changes to cut down on extra work by teachers.

The committee also heard information on the background on Infinite Campus (IC), as questions have been asked about 'why' it was selected. IC is a comprehensive data management program for school districts that puts together information from a multitude of different sources. Before IC, many departments/district programs had their own separate data programs that did not "talk" to each other; this made the retrieval of data, the accuracy of data, and the communication between systems frustrating for many, including teachers. With a program like IC, TVUSD won't need AERIES for attendance, Pinnacle for parent communication and grading, and many more programs for childcare, transportation, food services, payroll, etc. The district's goal with implementing a program like IC was that data will now be housed more accurately in one system, without losing some of the valuable features (particularly the parent portal) of the previous programs. The committee heard that in some states, all the school districts use IC for their data needs, and teachers and administrators give it good reviews. They have shared, however, that the first year is typically difficult, as each district/department has unique needs that need to be addressed and written into the program.

CTA Summer Institute on Common Core

Kristan Morales shared information about the summer course she took on Common Core instruction at CTA's Summer Institute. She wrote about her experience and provided links in the Sept. TVEA newsletter, but she has a lot more available. She's also been chosen to be a member of the Instructional Leadership Corps, sponsored by CTA and Stanford University. These contacts and statewide information input will be valuable to the committee and the district.

Pilot Math Materials

The Steering Committee discussed how best to collect teacher input regarding pilot materials we're trying out this year. Per Administrative Regulation (passed by School Board), a process is already defined for adopting new curriculum. The AR includes specific forms for feedback and evaluation of materials. Input will be sought from all teachers currently teaching Common Core State Standard courses.

Other Common Core Actions and Informational Items:

- The refinement process is continuing which may result in changes in assessments and UPOs. Your input is crucial to make our program strong! On Nov. 6, K-12 ELA/Math refinement teams

will be meeting. Please discuss the units you've been teaching with your PLC group and share your input on the electronic feedback forms located within your Google drive.

- Driven by ELA teachers at the secondary level, rubrics are being discussed and analyzed and a system for selecting anchor paper sets for each grade level is being devised.
- The members of the committee received a budget report to look over before our next meeting regarding the money received by the district from the state for Common Core implementation.

Our next meeting will be at the TVEA office on Nov. 17th. We will be discussing resources for Common Core instruction and Special Ed Checklists. Report cards will be discussed at our January meeting, when we should have feedback from teachers, who will have just finished the process for First Semester.

Common Core Committee Members

Sina Albertoni (2nd grade teacher at TLES), Jenniffer Aynesworth (principal at VHES), Joe Balleweg (ESS), Carleen Cook (5th grade teacher at PVES), Andree Grey (ESS), Karen Hogan (Special Ed TOSA), Marc Horton (principal at GOHS), Karen Hoskins (math teacher at BVMS), Jeff Kingsberg (TVEA President), Chris Lindberg (4th grade teacher at FVES), Jodi McClay (ESS), Tina Miller (principal at DMS), Kristan Morales (math teacher at CHS), Aimee Ricken (English teacher at GOHS), Breck Smith (Special Ed Assistant Director), Anna Tapley (principal at FVES), and Katie Vanderhorst (English teacher at DMS).

Thank you,

Chris Lindberg CCSC Co-Chair

Andree Grey (ESS)

Joe Balleweg (ESS)