



WASC PEP Meeting

Nov 20th, 2014

Agenda

- What's WASC?
- Why be accredited?
- What's new since 2012?
- Goals Update
- Opportunities to help!



What is WASC?



Western **A**ssociation of **S**chools and **C**olleges

- We are currently WASC Accredited K-8TH



Accrediting Commission for Schools, WASC

ACS WASC accredits K-12 schools and non-degree granting postsecondary institutions

Why be accredited?



- Certification to the public that the school is a trustworthy institution of learning
- Validates the integrity of a school's program
- Fosters improvement of the school's programs and operations to support student learning
- Assures a school community that the school's purposes are appropriate and being accomplished through a viable educational program
- A way to manage change through regular assessment, planning, implementing, monitoring and reassessment
- Assists a school in establishing its priority areas for improvement as a result of the perpetual accreditation cycle
- School self-assessment of the current educational program
- Insight and perspective from an outside source
- Regular school staff assessment of progress through the intervening years between full self-studies.

What's new since 2012?

Let's brainstorm!



Changes:

Capital Improvements:

- Additional Portable
- Additional storage (sheds)
- Columbine locks on all doors
- Poppy Hall kitchen upgrade
- Primary Sandbox
- Blacktop walkways and basketball court
- Cheetah mural
- Primary garden
- Upgrades to classrooms/office
- Canopy for lunch serving area

Changes:

Staff:

- New Staff Members
- RtI Aide
- Lunch Supervisors
- Additional Office Staff
- Spanish Translator
- 75% Administrator
- Montessori credentialed staff member
- Elementary & MS teachers in Intermediate
- ILS Aide for Int/MS
- Nutritional Assistant
- Staff member with a Doctorate

Changes:

Communication:

- Newsletters at all levels
- Ustream webcasting meetings
- Updated Website
- Reminder text message service (Remind)
- Community Calendar on website
- Communication Contract
- Use of signs at carpool

Changes:

Programs/Philosophies:

- Partnership w/ City of Antioch
- Special Education on Campus
- Expanded Music Program
- Attendance/Tardy Procedures
- Additional time for math at all levels
- Additional time for science
- Community Council
- Juggling
- Primary/Elementary combination
- Transitional Kindergarten
- Connection to ACA levels
- 8th grade
- HET Training
- Rosetta Stone Pilot
- Improved SST/504 Process
- Lindamood Bell
- Critical Friends Group
- Changes to Discipline Policy
- School Motto- Cheetahs Make it Happen
- ILS Training and expansion
- MS ERWC Training
- 8th grade graduation speeches
- 8th Grade Legacy projects
- MS We Day
- Middle School activities

Changes:

Curriculum:

- Common Core
- CPM Math 6th-8th
- Read Naturally
- Intermediate Junior Great Books
- Intermediate IXL
- HET Theme Maps
- Theme based field trips
- Social Political Action
- MS Khanacademy & Mangahigh
- Montessori Great Lessons & Experiments

Changes:

Technology/Materials:

- Hands on Life Cycle Science
- Additional computers
- Upgraded internet access
- Informational Text Resources
- Intermediate subject Journals
- Snap Cards
- MS Online Gradebook
- Chromebooks
- iPads
- Common Core materials at all levels
- Televisions in classrooms
- Additional Musical instruments
- Montessori Math materials in Intermediate

Our Goals:

- Math
- Assessments
- Communication



GOAL

Goals: Math

**Bridge the math curriculum between levels
(Primary Step)**

Ongoing. Each year the levels have met to discuss the overall framework of the program. This year levels will meet to discuss progress toward math fact goals, math vocabulary, and overall areas of weakness in math. Staff will create a list of math vocabulary at each level and share vocabulary between the levels. Staff will chart math areas of need at each level and work backwards to identify possible holes in new curriculum.

**Identify all students not performing at Proficient or above on CSTs
(Primary Step)**

Ongoing. Target students were identified last school year. A new list will be generated based on CAASPP scores and math tests/assessment. Student achievement will be tracked and SSTs will occur for under achieving students.

**Track progress/ development of each student's math skills over time
(Primary Step)**

Ongoing. More in-depth analysis is necessary. Each level is developing a math tracking sheet at all levels to identify ongoing areas of need with students and curriculum. Tracking sheets will be filed and shared as the students progress through curriculum and levels.

**Institute new research-based math programs, trainings, and materials based on student needs
(Secondary Step)**

New staff members have math expertise. Common Core training, HET training, Montessori, and brain research is the basis of math curriculum development. All levels are reviewing and redesigning curriculum based on Common Core. CPM math for 6th-8th was purchased in 2013. Pearson's enVision curriculum was implemented in 4th-6th in 2013.

**Communicate math program to stakeholders
(Tertiary Step)**

Ongoing. Math curriculum has been communicated to parents at Back to School Night, PEP meetings, report card conferences, Observation Week, and Watch Me Work Night. Additional ways of communicating math program are in development.

Goals: Assessment

Identify all Assessments being used in our school

Overall: Good progress toward this goal. A list of assessments has been created and updated in past years. A folder will be created on WIKI so that levels can update as assessments develop and change. Assessments still need to be tracked over time.

Analyze each assessment for validity and effectiveness

Progress is ongoing by levels. Assessments are being monitored by levels to be sure they reflect HET and Montessori Philosophies as well as Common Core standards.

Eliminate ineffective assessments from the classroom

This is ongoing by levels also. Assessments are being reflected upon to be sure they fit with best practices(HET), Montessori, and common core standards.

Look at current research to develop better assessments

This is in development as teachers attend HET and Montessori trainings, and read for professional development.

Better educate parents on the assessment process for each level

Each level is working on educating parents about assessments.

Continue to adjust assessment according to student need

This is an ongoing daily process for teachers at all levels. Level teachers continue to discuss, monitor, and reflect on student achievement, their interests, common core standards, available resources, as well as HET and Montessori practices.

Create an assessment tracking system

Levels are in the process. Many tracking systems are in place based on the needs of individual teachers. Many teams recently had staff changes so level teams are working to bridge systems together.

Create a system of informal assessment

Individual teachers and level teams are discussing and working toward aligning observations and informal assessments with common core.

Develop student generated assessments

This is in development. As HET evolves and improves students will have opportunities to create rubrics for projects.

Goals: Communication

Adopt an organization of basic skills K-8 to share with community

Working on it with implementation of Common Core. Each level is organizing curriculum to make it accessible to stakeholders. HET theme maps have helped with showing the organization of curriculum.

Develop a system to communicate to parents the skills/benchmarks their student achieves in curricular areas

Have made progress, but with HET implementation some communication has changed amongst the levels. Group will review the list of ways progress is communicated to parents at all levels.

Develop technology techniques to follow current/preferred communication methods

Good progress made, but follow up is needed. An update to the technology list will be necessary. Levels can share with each other what they have implemented.

Develop school policy to articulate communication expectations

Done. Letter to parents created last year and included in the handbook this year. The policy will be sent out as a reminder in January or February.

What's next?

- WASC review of goal progress/next steps
Friday Dec. 5th 2:30pm
- WASC Update 2nd Cup Friday Jan. 9th
- WASC Revisit Planning Meeting
Monday Feb. 23rd 12:30pm
- WASC *revisit* March 2nd & 3rd

CHEETAHS
MAKE IT
HAPPEN

