

1/18 DPC summary: Aligning the BVSD curriculum with the new Colorado Academic Standards – presented by Chief Academic Officer Ellen Miller-Brown. She oversees curriculum, instruction and assessments in BVSD.

A CED (Curriculum Essentials Document) is the physical curriculum our teachers have created from the State Standards. BVSD is creating a set of new Curriculum Essentials Documents. There will be five primary presentations to the Board of Education starting with math and ending with science. 70% of our courses are not part of those five curriculum areas; however. There are a lot of electives. Beginning next year (2012-2013) no course will be allowed to be taught without a CED.

At the national level... in 2009 National Common Core State Standards (CCSS) was published for Language Arts and Mathematics. Colorado took the standards from the national level and adopted them for our state. The new Colorado Academic Standards are designed with the end in mind, post secondary and work force readiness, articulated through prepared graduates competencies, which include 21st century skills: critical thinking, invention, information literacy, collaboration and self-direction. The standards are based on powerful connections within and across content areas. They define mastery by grade level, requiring application and transfer of concepts and skills. The standards focus on students acquiring concepts and skills through content for higher order thinking. Now we will have professional development based on these Colorado Academic Standards.

The state will not change the standards for at least five years. Kids won't be assessed on anything new for two years (TCAP) Transitional Colorado Assessment Program

Teachers work on their skills during their collaboration time. The legislature passed Senate Bill 191 (teacher effectiveness legislation) which establishes levels of expectations around performance, which includes knowledge of content.

Readiness – we are going to try the new CEDs with all students (SPED, ELLs). We have formal and informal systems to implement curriculum.

A standards-based system is how it's managed. What we are moving toward is demonstrated mastery by the student. How do we capture mastery and how do we report it? Teachers can talk at their school regarding this during collaboration time to calibrate student work.

Thanks, Diane
Diane Mosley