

Nelsonville-York Curriculum/Testing/Gifted

Update

September, 2019

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! It has been an amazing start thus far. Although we have previously introduced the new staff members, I wanted to once again list them and their positions so you can be sure to welcome them to our family.

Jessica Simons- 2nd Grade Intervention Specialist
Troy Wolford- 5th Grade Intervention Specialist
Margaret Gustafan- 6th-8th Grade Art
Dave Waters- 6th-8th Grade Math Intervention Specialist
Morgan Hutchison- 7th Grade ELA
Scott Elliott- H.S. Business
Jeff McRill- H.S. Algebra I
Alicia Carter- H.S. English II
Lisa Bonner- Elementary Dean of Students
Chris Walton- High School Assistant Principal
Hayley Bird- School Psychologist
McKenna DeWitt- Long-term sub 6th Grade Social Studies
Jamie Friel- Long-term sub Preschool
Morgan Newberry- Preschool Teaching Fellow
Erin Kritzwiser- Preschool Teaching Fellow
Katherine Adams- H.S Math Intervention Teaching Fellow

CURRICULUM:

College Credit Plus:

This semester we have students enrolled at Washington State, but receiving their instruction here on campus with Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Joyce and Mr. Holley. Students can earn college credit in English IV, Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology and Environmental Biology.

Math Curriculum Pilot:

Teachers and students in grades 6-8, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II are trying a new math program this year called [Reveal Math](#). The Math Curriculum Committee met several times last school year to work on improving our math program and curriculum materials. This program will provide students with consistency in vocabulary, layout, and materials. We will meet several times throughout the school year to discuss the implementation process and to determine if this program will be purchased for the 2020-2021 school year.

Striving Readers Grant:

We have been able to implement several ELA tools/assessments at the high school level using our Striving Readers Grant funds. Increasing our students' literacy skills at this level is extremely important to ensure they are college/career ready.

- **Choice Reading PD:** This year we will be sharing a presenter with Alexander Local Schools for a full large group workshop and 1-1 coaching on Choice Reading. A large body of research shows a strong

relationship between voluntary reading, at school or at home, and academic achievement. Voluntary reading is a strong predictor of reading achievement and correlates to increased brain and language development. A wealth of resources is available to support teachers of any grade level to facilitate choice reading in their classrooms.

- [Renaissance Star 360 Universal Reading Assessment](#): Each student's reading skills are assessed three times a year using this program. We have used it in the elementary for several years and have now implemented it district wide. This allows teachers to analyze each student's abilities, group as necessary, and progress monitor once interventions have been put in place (we are also using this to assess each student's math skills)
- [NoRedInk](#): This is an online program that builds stronger writers through interest-based curriculum, adaptive exercises, and actionable data. All five of our ELA teachers are using this program.
- [Membean](#): This online program enhances student's vocabulary skills through guided, engaging multimodal vocabulary instruction while helping students retain what they learned through the Adaptive Reinforcement Engine.

Social and Emotional Curriculum (SEL):

We are beginning to implement SEL curriculum at the elementary and middle school levels. The elementary school counselor, Sharon Musial, will be meeting with students occasionally during their assigned library time to work on the SEL standards. The school has also implemented PRIDE groups where students will focus on the 5 domains of SEL along with creating a strong support system for each child. The middle school has formed an SEL team comprised of Mr. Dettwiller and teachers in grades 6-8. This team attended a training in June on SEL curriculum called Thriving Learning Communities (TLC). The team has met with the other staff to introduce SEL and the curriculum. Students will be exposed to the program during their Advisory period.

Career Education:

7th Grade: This year our 7th grade students will be visiting Tri-County on October 22nd. This used to be an 8th grade visitation day, but we have implemented more thorough visitations for 8th graders.

8th Grade: Students in the semester Career 2 class will visit Tri-County twice. Each visit will focus on specific career pathways offered at Tri-County and being discussed in class. This will allow students to have a more in-depth exposure to each of the career programs. The curriculum in the Career class has been aligned with the following pathways: Automotive, Food, Customer Service, Health, Technology, Building and Manufacturing.

High School: The high school is working with Project Rise to provide students with career counseling, job shadowing, and internship/apprenticeship opportunities.

High School Graduation Requirements 2021 and Beyond:

Ohio law enacted new, permanent graduation requirements that are available for the classes of 2021 and beyond.

[This chart outlines the options available to each graduating class, as well as a description of the requirements.](#)

TESTING:

District Reading/Math Universal Screener: All students in grades K-12 are being assessed in Reading using the STAR 360 online assessment. Students in grades 1-8, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II will be assessed

in Math. Teachers use this data to inform their instruction and ensure each child's needs are met.

Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA): Kindergarteners must complete the KRA by Nov. 1st. This assessment is state developed and required. Teachers may use the results from the Language and Literacy portion as the Kindergarten Reading Diagnostic.

Preschool Early Learning Assessment (ELA): The ELA is an ongoing process of observations performed by the teacher to gather information on how a child is developing over time. This process allows the teacher to form an understanding of the child's learning and development that will assist them in planning future learning opportunities. The results are reported to the state in the Fall and Spring of each year.

K-3 Diagnostics: State required Reading diagnostics are being completed this month. Teachers use the STAR 360 program for their Reading diagnostic. Students are placed as either On Track or Not on Track based on their results. Reading Improvement Plans (RIMPS) are then developed for students who are not on track in Reading.

3rd Grade ELA: The 3rd grade students will be taking the Ohio ELA assessment the week of Oct. 21st. This test will be their first chance to pass the TGRG and ensure they can move onto the 4th grade. They will take the assessment again in the spring.

GIFTED:

The Gifted Coordinator, Suzanne Swart, is busy planning for this year's gifted testing. Whole grade testing will occur as follows:

Fall

4th Grade IOWA

6th Grade CogAT

Spring

1st Grade CogAT

2nd Grade IOWA

6th-8th grade students have been gearing up for Model United Nations which will be held at Ohio University.

Check out the TAG website for updates and news: <http://tagnycs.weebly.com/>



Fall Begins Sept. 23rd