

SMCAA Spring Conference 2011
May 3, 2011

A. Teaching to Deeper Understanding in Mathematics:
Stuff We've Learned

Target Audience: Secondary Math Teachers, Curriculum Directors and Administrators

Presenters: Kathy Fausett and Barbara Lombardi, Math Teachers and Steve Haupt, Math Dept. Chair, Neosho High School, Neosho R-V

Motivating high school students through engagement produces positive results. Three veteran teachers will share the techniques and strategies they have used to take student learning to deeper levels of understanding. They will share successful, practical ideas that have been effective in working with high school students from algebra to calculus. These strategies and techniques will make moving to the CCSS a smooth transition.

B. Conceptual Understandings in Elementary
Mathematics

Target Audience: Elementary Math Teachers, Curriculum Directors and Administrators

Presenters: Gina Gilman, Curriculum Facilitator and Elaine Hansett, Elementary Math Dept. Head, MU Fellows Mentor, Mexico Public Schools

This session will provide a description of the journey one district has taken to develop curriculum that focuses on deeper conceptual understandings in elementary mathematics. Presenters will share how they used the process standards as a guide in creating instructional activities that engage students through real world applications at higher DOK levels.

C. “Writing Under the Influence” Immersing the Common Core Standards into the Middle School Authentic Writing Classroom

Target Audience: Secondary English Language Arts Teachers (formerly known as Comm. Arts Teachers), Curriculum Directors and Administrators

Presenters: Marcy Hutchings, Middle School English Language Arts and Reading teacher in the Sullivan School District and Dawn Bristow, full-time Instructor at East Central College, and Foundations of Literacy for grades 6-12 Teacher at Missouri Baptist University

How do we cause secondary students to author higher-level, real-world examples of nonfiction writing? How do we support rigorous writing instruction through close study and immersion? How do middle school teachers implement the Common Core Standards into their literacy program?

Participants will explore the following topics:

- i How to immerse students in the rich variety of mentor-texts that give them a clear vision of nonfiction writing.
- i How to strategically select texts to support whole-class learning as well as individual choice.
- i How best practices turn common-core standards into sensible units of study.
- i Why depth can be a more practical and effective curricular goal than breadth in writing instruction.

D. Do you hammer those GLE's and CLE's and seem to get nowhere?

Target Audience: Middle School English Language Arts Teachers (formerly known as Comm. Arts Teachers), Curriculum Directors and Administrators

Presenters: Autumn Stevens and Kandee Oliver, Middle School/Jr. High Teachers, Jackson R-II

For the next couple of years, we will continue to be aligned to the GLEs and CLEs as we prepare to transcend to the Common Core State Standards. This presentation will help us take a look at what we can be doing now in the teaching of English Language Arts at the elementary level that will add some "Curb Appeal" to instruction. Presenters will share how using tiered activities can provide tools to deepen comprehension, which is our target regardless of which set of standards we use.

E. Scientific Inquiry for Deeper Understandings

Presenter: Caysie Heil, Biology High School Teacher, Nixa R-II

Target Audience: Science Teachers (all levels), Curriculum Directors and Administrators

Science does not discriminate based on age! Students of all ages can use scientific inquiry to solve problems and deepen their understanding of concepts. We will look at how streamlined vocabulary, integration of technology, and engaging students in the scientific process at an early age can lead to high achievement on the Biology EOC.

F. Student Engagement and Interaction

Target Audience: Teachers, Curriculum Directors and Administrators

Presenters: Bob Efken and Christine Prosser, SLOP Instructional Coaches, Bayless School District

How do we ensure that all students are able to not only show mastery of content, but also demonstrate academic language proficiency? How can allowing interaction in the classroom provide students the opportunity to grapple with challenging concepts and language? How can we support our students so that all students at all levels can be successful with our content?

Participants will explore the following topics:

- i How to help students increase their content knowledge while developing academic English language proficiency.
- i How to maintain high levels of student engagement through games and word play without sacrificing academic rigor.

- i How scaffolding instruction for students can help maintain student engagement and promote structured interaction.
- i How student accountability is crucial in ensuring high levels of student engagement.

G. So Many Standards... So Little Time

Target Audience: Curriculum Directors, Teachers and Administrators

Presenters: Ginny Vandelight and Vickie Robb, PLC Consultants, Heart of Missouri RPDC

All classroom teachers know that the exploding number of standards makes it virtually impossible to teach them all at any depth. Doug Reeves says that for schools to effectively implement the current standards would require a K-22 program. Marzano's research indicates that a guaranteed and viable curriculum has direct impact on student achievement. This workshop will provide a process for identifying the essential standards that all students must know deeply in any content area and a process for identifying exactly what concepts are embedded in those standards.

H. Making the Pieces Fit: Curriculum and Instruction for Deeper Understandings and High Achievement

Target Audience: Curriculum Directors, Administrators and Teachers

Presenters: Carol Bauer and Carol Pace (Carol & Carol)

Research shows a strong relationship between student engagement in higher order, deeper learning and student achievement. Participants will consider how to move a school/district to a conscious focus on school-wide engagement in deeper thinking through curriculum and instruction. Higher order thinking skills will be matched to the proficiency levels of students on state assessments and national standards.

I. Build Your Own Curriculum (BYOC)

Target Audience: Curriculum Directors, Teachers, Administrators

Presenters: Chris Trina, BYOC and Randy Jennings, Education Technology Partners

In this session, participants will receive a demonstration of the BuildYourOwnCurriculum (BYOC) web-based curriculum management tool that allows districts to customize the configuration of their format to follow the philosophy of Understanding by Design or other identified district specific approaches to curriculum and instruction. BYOC staff will show how teachers can locate current curriculum requirements and resources, to easily update and customize their lesson plans in alignment with district/state and (eventually) national standards and expectations; how administrators can gain instant access to the learning paths in each building, grade, and classroom—and view this information by standards, by teaching objective, and by key concept. Reports, linkage to classroom websites for curriculum and lesson assignment, student and public access and other useful features of this curriculum management product will be presented.