

Curriculum Update

The new curriculum standards that begin in August 2009 are now available
http://state.tn.us/education/ci/standards_2009-2010.html



ENGLISH Standards

Elementary:

Kindergarten 1st Grade 2nd Grade 3rd Grade
4th Grade 5th Grade 6th Grade 7th Grade 8th
Grade

Secondary:

English I English II English III English IV

MATH Standards

Elementary:

Kindergarten 1st Grade 2nd Grade 3rd Grade
4th Grade 5th Grade 6th Grade 7th Grade 8th
Grade

Secondary:

Algebra I Algebra II Geometry

SCIENCE Standards

Elementary:

Kindergarten 1st Grade 2nd Grade 3rd Grade
4th Grade 5th Grade 6th Grade 7th Grade 8th
Grade

Secondary:

Biology I Biology II Chemistry I Chemistry II
Conceptual Physics Physics Earth Science
Ecology Environmental Science Geology Scientific
Research Human Anatomy & Physiology

HICKMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Teaching and Learning News

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Assessment 'of ' and 'for ' Learning by Rick Stiggins

Begin any assessment design with a clear sense of **WHY** you are conducting the assessment. What is the difference between assessment 'of' learning and assessment 'for' learning?

Assessment **of** learning refers to attaining results--(grades, scores, etc.) Whereas, assessment **for** learning refers to acquiring feedback, obtaining information to improve, and making students

aware of what they know and what they still need to learn.

As you develop assessment, identify the purpose.... **of** learning or **for** learning?

Larry Bell Testing Tips

- Teachers must have a positive attitude toward the test.
- Model relaxation when discussing the test.
- Enthusiastically discuss the test.
- Tell students often how well they will do on the test.
- Use higher vocabulary on assignments and tests.
- Time assignments and tests.
- Do not allow one-word answers.
- The week of state testing, only do 1-2 things different than you would any other week.
- Simulate the test 2-3 times before the testing window.

- Simulate not going back to the previous section on daily work.
- Make tests longer...no fluff.
- Put last year's most missed concepts on every test.
- Have math word problems daily.
- Penalize students for finishing too quickly on daily assignments and tests. For example, do not let them read, draw, or relax when they are finished and waiting for the rest of the class. Teach them to go back and review all of their answers.
- Make a larger percentage of tests require writing.

- Do state released items frequently.
- Look for key words.
- Unravel (see techniques on next page).
- Teach the **12 Powerful Words**

*Trace...Analyze...
Infer*

*Evaluate...Formulate...
Describe*

*Support...Explain...
Summarize*

*Compare...Contrast...
Predict*

PowerPoints: 12 Powerful Words

<http://www.jc-schools.net/powerfulwords/12powerfulwords.ppt>

PowerPoint of 12 Powerful Words to print as classroom posters

http://www.jc-schools.net/powerfulwords/12_powerful_words_posters.ppt

Unraavel Reading:

Unraavel is a reading strategy for comprehension developed by Larry Bell.

Underline the title

Now predict the passage

Run through and number the paragraphs

Are you reading the questions?

Are the important words circled?

Venture (read very carefully) through the paragraph

Eliminate (by crossing out) obviously wrong answers

Let the questions be answered, and next to the question write the paragraph and/or sentence

number where you find the answer.

Download a classroom PowerPoint on Unraavel Reading:

<http://www.jc-schools.net/powerfulwords/unraavelreading.ppt>

Unraavel Math

U - Underline the question

N - Now predict what you think you need to do to solve the problem

R - Read the word problem

A - Are the important words circled? (especially clue words)

A - Apply the step(s) you chose to solve the problem

V- Verify your answer

(Is it reasonable; does it make sense?)

E- Eliminate wrong answers

L - Let the answer stay or rework the problem

Double check your work!

Math Unraavel PowerPoint!
http://www.jc-schools.net/powerfulwords/unraavel_a_math_problem_fourth_fifth.ppt

Formative or Summative Assessments?

The new Tennessee Curriculum Standards include the Standard number and topic, the Grade Level Expectations (GLEs), the Checks for Understanding (Formative/Summative Assessment) and State Performance Indicators. The chart below may help you understand the difference in Formative and Summative Assessments.

Source: Checking for Understanding, Fisher

Comparison of Formative and Summative Assessments		
	Formative Assessments	Summative Assessments
Purpose	To improve instruction and provide student feedback	To measure student competency
When administered	Ongoing throughout unit	End of unit or course
How students use results	To self-monitor understanding	To gauge their progress toward goals and benchmarks
How teachers use results	To check for understanding	For grades, promotion

Tennessee Diploma Project

Beginning next school year, the Tennessee Department of Education will implement the **Tennessee Diploma Project (TDP)**, a broad overhaul of standards and curriculum designed to challenge students and better prepare them for college and the workforce. Students beginning high school in fall 2009 will

begin a new path with increased graduation requirements from 20 credits to 22, a focus on the skills needed for college and the workforce in an ever expanding global economy, and new assessments.

Gateway Exams in high school will be replaced by end-of-course exams that

truly test the mastery of expectations leading to college- and work-readiness. The overall assessment system includes the ACT's College and Readiness Test, Explore (given in the 8th grade), and the PLAN College Readiness Test given in the 10th grade.



For more information on the revised graduation requirements, please visit <http://state.tn.us/education/gradreq.shtml>

Suggested Resources

**Classroom Instruction That Works:
Research-Based Strategies for Increasing Student Achievement**

Robert Marzano, Debra Pickering, Jane Pollock

ISBN # 0-87120-504-1

**12 Powerful Words
That Increase Test Scores and Help Close the Achievement Gap**

Larry I. Bell

<http://www.larry-bell.com>

Hickman County Schools

Office of Teaching and Learning

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