Welcome to the first edition of *The Navigator!*

The intent of *The Navigator* is to provide you with timely updates focused on instructional practice that impacts student learning, and to celebrate curriculum news. You will have an opportunity to learn about the current status of district initiatives supported by teacher driven committees. We look forward to providing you with this information.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know, the more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
— Dr. Seuss

Illuminate Update

Are you wondering what this new icon is on your desktop?

This your shortcut to Illuminate!

What is Illuminate and what does it have to do with me?

It is many things, but for now it is your one-stop for Skyward, the BCPS Curriculum Website, and the BCPS Assessment Website. Over the next few months, your building Illuminate Leadership Team will be sharing how to view NWEA, M-Step, PSAT and SAT reports for the students in your class. They will also teach you how to create assessments in Illuminate. Students can take online or paper-pencil assessments. Depending on the format, Illuminate will score all or some of it for you.

Go ahead, click the icon, we know you want to. If you have questions or want to know more now please feel free to contact Amy Basket at ext. 8148 or basketa@bcschools.net

District ELA Curriculum Guides

Elementary

A committee of dedicated teachers in Grade K-4 worked diligently over the summer to create new guides for ELA. Standards and resources were aligned in an easy to use format that brings consistency to our grade levels. The new curriculum guides were presented during our back to school professional development day. There was an overwhelming response of devoted fifth grade teachers that applied to serve as developers for the fifth grade planning guide. Coming Soon: Fifth grade planning guides.
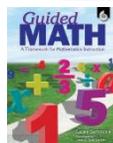
Middle School

The process of creating Middle School Curriculum guides will begin soon! Middle School Administrators are currently seeking out interested ELA teachers in grades 6, 7, and 8 that will assist with the development of the curriculum guides at their respective grade levels. Please stay tuned!
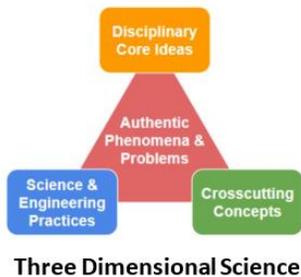
High School

The Curriculum Department will be contacting ELA teachers soon to review and update curriculum guides.

Guided Math Summer Workshop

This summer, over 20 elementary teachers participated in a 3-day workshop learning more about how to make the guided math structure work in their classroom. Teachers read "Guided Math" by Laney Sammons, investigated NWEA and M-Step data to better understand their students' mathematical needs, & explored the idea of persistent problem-solving. Teachers worked together to research & create learning activities to enhance their resources and start the school year ready to go with Guided Math.

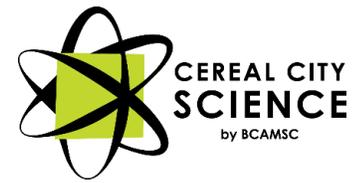# Science Instruction in Bay City A-Ligns!

Three Dimensional Science

In November 2015, Michigan's State Board of Education adopted new standards for science based on the Next Generation Science Standards. The Michigan Department of Education calls the new Michigan K-12 Science Standards (MSS). A major difference between the MSS and previous science standards is "three-dimensional" (3D) learning. 3D learning refers to the thoughtful and deliberate integration of the three distinct dimensions within the NGSS: Scientific and Engineering Practices (SEPs), Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCIs), and Crosscutting Concepts (CCCs).

Bay City Public Schools continues to be a regional leader in the area of Science, aligning curriculum materials at every level!

Elementary:
All Elementary classroom teachers received training in August on their 2nd NGSS aligned *Cereal City Science* kit. This Fall, all classrooms in K-5 are teaching Earth Science standards, with Physical Science instruction happening in the Winter, and Life Science in the Spring. In 19-20, BCPS will finalize alignment of the 3rd NGSS resource, which is Life Science.

Middle School:
Science Teachers in 6-8 have been involved with a *Mi-STAR* Curriculum implementation since this work began in our state. *Mi-STAR* is a curriculum designed for teachers, by teachers, with scientists, engineers, and curriculum specialists. This summer, BCPS even had two middle school teachers involved in regional grant work, writing curriculum with the *Mi-STAR* Team from Michigan Tech!! In this engaging curriculum, students apply their learning to challenges based on solving real-world problems.

High School:
With the shift to semesters this year, and the newly adopted NGSS standards in our state, Science in the High School was due for revisions. As Freshmen, students now take Physical Science through the *Interactions* Curriculum. *Interactions* helps high school students develop an integrated understanding of the forces involved in interactions that occur between atoms and molecules. (The curriculum has also received the highest rating of "E: Example of high-quality NGSS design." by Achieve.org.)

Biology continues to be offered to Sophomores, with *Carbon Time* being the primary curriculum for the majority of the course. Several teachers spent a few days this summer attending a PD on *Carbon Time*, in partnership with Midland Public Schools. *Carbon Time* supports science teaching that is rigorous and responsive, engaging students actively in science and engineering practices.

Dates to Note:

October 1, 2018	**After-School DPPD (Oct. 2nd for WMS)**
October 10, 2018	**ISD-Wide PD Day @ Bangor**
October 24, 2018	**PSAT Grade 11**

We teach our students that reading captions is important. The first elementary, middle, and high school educator to fill out the google form below will receive a prize. Thank you for your close reading!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceBjJa5lk_sTxprPgrSJ2eEnNgZpZ5Tqw_67dTmiiIyCLaFA/viewform