

The What and Why behind Curriculum Maps

THE WHAT

Curriculum mapping is a process where teachers, administrators and other support staff come together to plan out learning goals for students throughout the learning journey. It sets the scope, sequence and pace of learning, aligned across grades, subjects and standards. It's less about how you teach, and more about what you teach and how you'll track learning. The completed curriculum map then becomes a tool that helps teachers – or even an entire school – keep track of what students have been taught and what comes next. Curriculum mapping is an ongoing process for documenting what's being taught in a meaningful way that's connected to learning outcomes and standards.

The process of curriculum mapping helps with identification of:

- Program strengths: Student learning outcomes and standards currently addressed thoroughly
- Program gaps: Student learning outcomes and standards currently not addressed or addressed minimally
- Instructional Resources: Primary and supplemental instructional resources are aligned to support course outcomes and are available for student and family access
- Assessment Measures: Establish appropriate assessment measures to determine if/when learning outcomes have been achieved

Monticello teachers have been working hard to develop high quality curriculum maps over the past two years. Most of the secondary courses are completed. Elementary math curriculum maps are available, and we will be working to complete Language Arts in the coming year. [Here is a link to all K-12 Curriculum Maps for our district.](#)

THE WHY

There are many benefits to the curriculum mapping process. Here are a few:

- Teachers - Making better use of student and teacher time by eliminating redundancies, inconsistencies and gaps in learning between different grade levels and subjects
- Administrators - Ensuring all standards and learning goals are addressed by mapping them directly to each grade, subject and unit within
- Students - Sharing what's to come in the school year, so they know their teacher's expectations of them as they move from unit to unit
- Families - Providing a transparent framework for families in order to better understand what their students are learning and how it is connected to the required standards