Welcome Back

Welcome to another school year in DoDEA. We are thankful for such a talented group of educators who teach and serve our military community each year. We plan to build off of the successes of our first year of implementing College and Career Ready (CCR) Standards and continue to grow with each new experience, and we hope you will join us in that commitment. DoDEA is a great school system and this transition will make us even better!

Fall Professional Learning

With the expansion of CCR implementation to grades 6-12 College and Career Standards for Mathematics (CCRSM) and Literacy (CCRSL), all of DoDEA’s educators will be engaged in the standards. Four days of professional learning on the standards will occur throughout this school year: one day in the fall, two in the winter, and one in the spring. The Charles A. Dana Center is developing the CCRSM training, and our mathematics instructional systems specialists will be delivering the trainings, while Catapult Learning is developing and facilitating the CCRSL sessions.

- **Grades PK-5 Mathematics**: The focused learning of this year is numbers and operations in base ten and numbers and operations—fractions. Teachers will continue to shift their classroom culture to include opportunities for students to think mathematically by engaging in rich tasks and discussions.

- **Grades PK-5 Specialized Content**: This fall, the training will focus on a few key objectives, including examining the research on change initiatives, while reflecting on CCRSM year one, and aligning non-cognitive skills to the SMPs. Also, the training will examine connections between mathematics and specialized content standards, using the music, art and physical education as models with a focus on planning with intentionality as we move forward.

- **Grades 6-12 Mathematics**: The session will build upon concepts from the spring by engaging with the Vertical Alignment and Alignment & Intentionality tools while studying standards around reasoning with rates of change. Participants will also continue to build their skill in identifying and using rich tasks and how modeling can enhance student learning experiences.

- **Grades 6-12 Literacy**: For literacy, the initial professional learning event with Catapult Learning will focus on the CCRSL, the instructional shifts, the Core Six strategies for student learning, and an exemplar model unit. The emphasis will be on increasing teachers’ knowledge and ability to implement CCRSL. The goal is to support teachers as they build awareness of the instructional changes and new materials.

Additional time is allocated for teacher collaborative planning with new mathematics curricular resources on a quarterly basis for K-8 mathematics teachers.

Communities of Practice (COP)

As many of you know, DoDEA is providing online communities of practice (COP) on Schoology for CCR Standards implementation. Questions and comments in the first year of implementation were mainly about materials, and this is expected. This year, DoDEA will work with our Dana Center partners to enrich the conversations about the standards and teachers instructional planning and decision making. There is a COP group for each grade level and this year we will also be offering mini-courses for specific implementation ideas. Stay tuned for the first mini-course offered about differentiation in implementing CCRSM.

The COP for literacy will be developed with Catapult Learning this fall in preparation for full implementation of CCRSL in January 2017. Updates on the CCRSL COP will be provided through the “DoDEA Educators CCR Educator Resources” Schoology Group.