TEACHER INNOVATOR PROGRAM

The Teacher Innovator Program (TIP) entered its second year of work focusing on the development and implementation of instructional strategies that support 21st Century Teaching and Learning. The TIP Program expanded this year to include almost 80 teachers representing 36 out of our 39 schools in the district. TIP teachers who were new to the program began their year with a TIP Boot Camp preparing them to be incorporated into the 2013-14 strategy focus Close Reading, which is a hallmark strategy throughout the California Common Core Standards, structured Learning Walks have provided all TIP teachers with 2 opportunities to learn and receive feedback from colleagues as they strive to refine their instructional practices in this critical area. The lessons learned from these pioneering teachers have been captured in video tape, lesson plans and student work creating a digital portfolio for District dissemination.

SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT FIELD TEST/SCIENTIFIC PILOTS

OUSD will be participating in a full-scale implementation of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium test this spring for students grades 3-8 and those chosen for the scientific pilot at the secondary level. Our district testing window is April 7th through May 16th of this year and each student, of testing grades, will be required to take an estimated four-hour field test, broken into multiple sessions and days. SBAC has released practice tests to familiarize students, parents, and teachers with the test and those test can be accessed through the district's eClassroom site at: http://eclass.orangeusd.org/SBAC/index.asp

To prepare for this large-scale field test, site administrators are in the process of developing site teams and site schedules to accommodate their student population and availability of technology resources. District support has been provided to help build site schedules and will provide trainings to the site teams to ensure they are prepared to train their staff to facilitate a successful test.

In addition to the testing support provided to the sites, the district technology department is working feverishly to ensure each site has adequate bandwidth and that each testing computer is set up with the SBAC Browser for the students to test within.

Local Control Funding Formula/Local Control Accountability Plan Update

Accountability and Special Programs continues to collect stakeholder input from parents, staff and students through the Local Control Funding Formula community survey that was developed in the Fall and shared at various District committees: District English Learners Advisory Committee, District Advisory Committee, Common Core State Standards Parent Awareness Sessions, Curriculum Council, GATE Community Advisory Committee, Educational Technology Advisory Committee, Special Education Committee, Superintendent's Forum, and the school sites. We will be summarizing the input in March to share a draft with the community in April.

Recently school sites were given an allocation of Local Control Supplemental funds, which is based on the number of unduplicated count of English Learners, Low Income and Foster Youth students at each school site to purchase materials and services that would enhance the learning of these groups of learners. Principals obtained input from their parents and staff on how to spend the additional money and the estimated expenditures fell into these four categories: technology devices, professional development, intensive intervention and instructional materials.

Although the Local Control Accountability Plan template will not be released until the end of March 2014 by the State Board of Education, Educational Services, Business Services and Human Resources departments have been working together to ensure compliance in the development of the plan. Educational Services staff is reviewing various data and aligning them to the 8 State priority areas which will be taken to all the committees for parents, staff, student , administrators and community members for further input in developing our District goals in the LCAP.

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COMMON CORE CONNECTION
ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT—EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

OUSD Process for Achievement Includes Integrating Technology

The Educational Technology Office has provided many exciting staff development opportunities for teachers and administrators during this year. These opportunities support our efforts to implement the digital literacy requirements of the Common Core State Standards into instruction, and to increase student achievement and engagement. Educational Technology offers courses after school at the District Office training labs and at school sites during staff development time. February 1st was the first annual OUSD Technology Festival. Attended by 150 teachers and administrators, the festival offered eight concurrent sessions on instructional technology in the classroom, SBAC testing, and a student technology showcase focusing on technology projects happening in our district classrooms. There was much excitement and enthusiasm generated by the sessions. A drawing for three iPads for classroom use culminated the day.

In October, the iTeach program was launched. iTeach is an intensive staff development program that supports teachers in the use of iPads to implement standards based, technology-rich lessons. Twenty-five teachers were selected through an application process to participate in one of three ten-week cohorts. Each teacher selected is given 8 iPads and agrees to attend two full-day, staff development sessions in iPad use, share model technology lessons, document activities using iMovie, and co-teach lessons using the iPad with the Instructional Specialist from Educational Technology.

Core Initiatives

- **Implementation Instruction & Intervention Rtf²**
  - Common Core State Standards Implementation
  - High quality instruction, intervention and integrating technology
  - Data based decision making
  - Progress Monitoring during instruction & intervention
  - Universal screening for all students
  - Academic Language development

- **Effective Collaboration**
  - Focus on student learning and set learning goals
  - Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
  - Collaborative Academic Support Teams (CAST)
  - Lesson Design and Action Research
  - New and Expanding Special Education Roles

- **Leadership for Learning**
  - K-12 Achievement Data Conference
  - Developing in-house Experts – Professional Development
  - On-going Communication
  - Network Approach to Leadership

With the newly released Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) funds many of our schools are in the process of purchasing new computers for their labs, iPads, and Chromebooks for student use. These technology purchases will not only give our schools updated devices to administer the SBAC test, but will give our students more access to the 21st Century tools; creating opportunities for critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and different methods to practice written communication.

The Educational Technology Office has just revised the District Technology Plan. The plan presents a three-year vision beginning in July 2014 for the future of technology in the District's 38 schools The plan is designed to encourage action that establishes and sustains learning environments conducive to creating environments where we will see improved student achievement and engagement.

Welcome to the Office of Curriculum and Instruction

Happy Spring! For the past eight months, our district has gone through a series of growth and reorganization. In working to better understand the needs of teachers and students, the department of curriculum and instruction is collaborating with key stakeholders to address the instructional needs of students as we transition into Common Core, Smarter Balanced, and Technology. Given the large scale changes in education, students' needs and academic achievement continue to remain a top priority. Our department has grown to ensure direct site support services such as: teacher training, principal support and parent information sessions. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Making Learners College and Career Ready

As we launch into 21st Century teaching, a top priority for OUSD is to prepare K-12 students for successful career and college options after they leave OUSD. We are moving forward with providing schools and students access to hands on experience in various careers. Below is a list of the 15 Career Industry Sectors in California. These pathways are aligned to many of the "hot jobs" of today and the future. The four new emerging pathways have high interest for our students and incorporate deep levels of practical knowledge, skills and applications in the math and science making it a perfect time for common core and 21st century teaching and learning.

- Agriculture & Natural Resources
- Arts, Media & Entertainment
- Building Trades & Construction
- Education, Child Development & Family Services
- Energy & Utilities
- Engineering & Design
- Fashion & Interior Design
- Finance & Business
- Health Science & Medical Technology
- Hospitality, Tourism & Recreation
- Information Communication Technology
- Manufacturing & Product Development
- Marketing, Sales & Service
- Public Service
- Transportation

New Career Pathways (by location)

Aviation Science (Ground Pilot School) 2014-15
Canyon HS

Energy & Utilities

Orange HS ~ Chevron
Canyon HS ~ Solar Boat

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

Canyon HS	Orange HS
El Modena HS	Villa Park HS
McPherson Magnet	

Promoting Energy Awareness and Knowledge (PEAK)

Anaheim Hills	Nohl Canyon	La Veta
Cambridge	Olive	Portola
Crescent	Fletcher	Palmyra
McPherson Magnet	OUSD Science Center	

For more information about our Career Technical Education program, please contact Kathy Boyd at kboyd@orangeusd.org
Read more at:
http://www.orangeusd.org/CTE/courses.asp

Curriculum and Instruction ~ Mid Year Celebrations

As we complete our halfway mark through the year, we have many great achievements and recognitions to celebrate after eight months of instruction. Below are some highlights of evidence that demonstrate exemplary work in 21st century learning. Here are some of the highlights that we would like to celebrate and acknowledge:

- **CARES Science Fair** - Over 600 attendees engaged in hands-on science related activities such as rocket launching and planetarium. Awesome job teachers and students!
- **VEX IQ Robotics** - Crescent and Yorba qualified to move onto state level championship. Way to go!
- **Staff Development -** 1000+ teachers attended the Common Core/21st Century professional development training. All teachers received a copy of the ELA and/or Math Standards at the training. Big staff development accomplishment!
- **DIBELS Next -** All elementary schools received updated assessment materials and training to align with our efforts in RtI.[2] Good work everyone!
- **Transitions Teams -** All K-12 sites successfully completed their cycle of leadership training in 21st century learning skills. Thank you all for your participation!
- **Instructional Specialists -** Frequently working to support teachers in several professional development trainings such as RSP training, Resource training, EIT training, Learn and Shares, and K-1 teacher trainings. Thank you team!
- **Elementary Learn & Shares -** All elementary schools received flyers regarding common core trainings. A hands-on and engaging experience!

As we celebrate our accomplishments at this mid-year mark, we want to thank those who have worked very hard to support our teachers in transitioning to 21st century learning. Great work everyone!

Student Teams Win Award at Regional Robotics Competition

The VEX IQ Challenge, presented by the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation, is a new STEM program for elementary and middle school students ages 8-14. In January, student teams from Crescent Elementary and Yorba Middle School competed against several teams and won! Our two schools qualified to move on to the VEX IQ State Robotics Championship. Way to go Team Crescent and Team Yorba!!!

The two teams from Crescent Elementary won the award for Top Alliance in Teamwork Competition. Teams from Yorba Middle School won the award for Top Programming and the Overall Excellence Award. These awards demonstrate exemplary evidence of 21st century learning. It also exemplifies the 4 C's of the District (Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creativity). We are all so very proud of the students, parents, teachers and principals for their dedication and support.

Crescent GATE Students Win Top Honors at State STEM Robotics Competition

Two teams from **Crescent Elementary School**, the Mighty Mechs and the Crescent Cougar Bots, placed first and second, respectively, at the **VEX Robotics State Championships** in Santa Clara held March 12 – 14. The Mighty Mechs won the State Championship overall for best Team Alliance score, Top Programming Skills, Top Individual Skills Challenge, and the Overall Excellence award presented by the judges at the event. The Crescent Cougar Bots placed second as finalists in the Alliance rankings and also was presented with the Amaze award which is given to the team that simply "Amazes" the judges in all categories while being interviewed. They will now head to the VEX World Championships in April.

Read more: http://www.orangeusd.org/CTE/steam.asp

Stay Connected!

NEW! - Now Follow Us
Now on Twitter

If you have been on the district's main website recently you will notice that our Common Core website has a twitter account that feeds directly onto the OUSD webpage. Our office has created a twitter account and wants to give our viewers a glimpse into the life of a 21st Century School District. The intention of our department's twitter account is to share out all the work we are doing as a collective team and share best practice examples of 21s century learning and college and career readiness.

We are asking that you please support our department by "Following" our informative and interesting Twitter account @ OUSDTeach. To follow us, simply press the "Follow" button above our name from the Common Core District's Website or you can use this link: http://www.orangeusd.org/ed_svcs/CommonCoreForParents/index.asp