



## Curriculum Alignment/Pacing Guides

### Curriculum Alignment/Pacing Guide Overview:

Quincy School District has determined that emphasis will be placed on developing and using aligned K-12 curriculum and pacing guides. Curriculum alignment facilitates communication among educators as they plan for both horizontal and vertical alignment of the curriculum. The process enables the district to ensure that educators will not overlap or skip content that is essential to meeting state and national standards. Vertical alignment of curriculum is planning curriculum across the grade levels, from kindergarten through high school, building upon instruction based upon standards. Correct vertical curriculum alignment improves student performance by decreasing the amount of instructional time consumed with re-teaching concepts. Horizontal alignment is the alignment of the curriculum being taught by teachers in a common grade level. This alignment is many times referred to as a "pacing guide." Horizontal alignment provides teachers with a guide, or goal, for their instruction. It also helps students by ensuring that each student is adequately prepared for the next grade and state assessment.

### Curriculum Alignment Goals:

- To develop curriculum guides that align to the standards
- To align materials to standards and state/national test specifications
- To focus on standards in instruction
- To support consistency of classroom instruction across the district

### Pacing Guide Goals:

- To identify core program lessons/chapters to emphasize or de-emphasize and the amount of instruction time
- To identify the sequence of core program lesson selections and amount of time needed for each
- To identify appropriate lessons from supplemental materials to fill gaps in alignment

### How will Curriculum Alignment and Pacing Guides make a difference for our staff/students?

- High expectations and access to meaningful learning for every student
- High expectations and access to meaningful instruction for every student
- Relevant and meaningful content in every lesson
- Timely, accurate monitoring of student learning and adjustment of teacher instruction for improved student learning

### Principal Expectations:

- Promote, support, expect utilization of the alignment documents
- Ensure that pacing guides are adhered to as evidenced by walkthroughs, classroom observations and collaborative conversations
- Ensure that pacing guides are used to design and deliver aligned lessons as evidenced by walkthroughs, classroom observations and collaborative conversations

### Staff Expectations:

- Utilize and adhere to alignment documents and pacing guides to plan for instruction
- Collaborate with staff to make modifications/adjustments to alignment documents and pacing guides based on assessment data

### Outcomes of Curriculum Alignment and Pacing Calendar Implementation

- Provides deep understanding of standards and evidence-based practices in instruction, assessments, and interventions in order to increase learning outcomes for all students and close the achievement gaps.
- Builds effective structures and conditions to support and sustain system-wide continuous improvement of teaching and learning.

- Enhances the capacity of instructional leaders to support, promote, lead and sustain professional learning that advances teaching practices, learning outcomes, and student achievement for all students.  
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