

## **K-12 Curriculum**

Kings Local School District has completed the first phase of systematically mapping the K-12 curriculum in all content areas. Curriculum maps identify and align the core content, processes, and assessments used in each subject area and are valuable instructional and communication tools for teachers, parents and students.

Curriculum maps:

- helps teachers, students, and parents understand what and when content in all subject areas and all grades is taught;
- assists teachers in creating unified interdisciplinary units that foster students' understanding of key concepts, ideas, and activities across many subject areas;
- helps coordinate areas of study into larger interdisciplinary units;
- promotes professional conversations related to key concepts and skills needed in each subject/grade;
- allows for consistent data collection methods and fosters professional conversations related to assessment results;
- acts as a successful venue for fostering conversation about curriculum and instruction among all faculty members;
- assist the students in finding "common threads" of understanding between a specific academic subject and other subjects;
- help teachers in reflecting upon and adjusting their own lesson units during the school year;
- helps to identify gaps in the curriculum and repetition with scope and sequence;
- allows vertical alignment of assessments, content and methods across years or grade levels;
- supports horizontal alignment of assessment, content and instructional methods between subjects;
- improves both curriculum deliver and assessment.

At Kings, we are dedicated to ensuring that curriculum mapping is an on-going and integral facet of our district's curriculum and instructional design and decision-making process.

Curriculum maps are never considered "done." Education is not a static environment since learning, and research about learning, is a continual process. As long as teachers have new students, new classes, new content standards, and new school years, continually revised curriculum maps provide evidence that a district is staying abreast of the most recent and most effective educational growth, development, trends and instructional models and practices.

## **Creating the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom through Technology**

Rapid developments in technology have brought many exciting changes to life in the new millennium and today's students today live, learn and play in a media-saturated society. Multiple new literacies are required to navigate our globalized media culture and this can present new challenges for schools. At Kings we fully understand that our students must be technologically literate so that they are prepared for the 21<sup>st</sup> century globalized society.

Administrators, teachers, and students at Kings utilize a variety of technology tools as part of the technology-driven, 21<sup>st</sup> century classroom.

In the classroom, teachers use various technology tools to implement the curriculum. Combining a touch-sensitive display and a projector that connects to a computer, interactive white boards offer teachers a vigorous set of resources that bring a new level of interactivity to everyday lessons—thus enabling teachers to reach every student in the classroom. To further facilitate implementation of the 21st-century classroom, teachers also utilize the interactive white board online community and in addition, use the web-based portal, Progressbook, to communicate instructional information like homework, upcoming classroom and school events, and daily instructional notes.

At the K-8 levels teachers and administrators use a web-based data management system to analyze assessment data to determine students' progress toward mastering curriculum standards. Teachers use this instructional media to assess the academic strengths and weaknesses of their students so that they are able to modify instruction to assist students in mastering curriculum standards.

At Kings, students have access to:

- 10 laptop carts (KJH and KHS)
- 6 technology teaching labs at the HS
- 10 open labs between all buildings
- Online textbook support sites

**Kings Kids Childcare & Preschool** is a fantastic service that Kings Local Schools provides to its families and students!

- Over 400 students are enrolled in our before and after school childcare program!
- Kings Kids Childcare serves students who are in Preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Kings Kids Childcare is held at JFB, KEC, KME, and SLE.
- Kings Kids Childcare offers a Summer Program that serves over 125 students!
- Kings Kids Childcare is a state licensed program. All staff members are trained in First Aid, CPR, Communicable Diseases, and Child Abuse in order to provide the best care to our students.
- Kings Kids Preschool is located at the KEC.
- Kings Kids Preschool has an enrollment of 88 students!
- Our preschool teachers hold teaching certificates and licenses endorsed by the State of Ohio.
- Kings Kids Preschool curriculum is based on the Early Learning Content Standards provided by the State of Ohio.
- Our preschool students “graduate” with a foundation of skills, content knowledge, and positive social behaviors that ensure they are prepared for school!

### **Elementary Curriculum**

Two district elementary curriculum goals were:

1. Increase instructional time in core curriculum areas to better meet the needs of all learners.
2. Improve student achievement in math and literacy.

**Goal #1** was met by modifying schedules at the K-8 levels to provide students with a) increased instructional time in core curriculum areas and b) regularly scheduled intervention/enrichment time to meet individual student needs.

**Goal #2** is currently in progress with comprehensive math initiatives ([http://www.kingslocal.net/sites/kings/Curriculum/History%20of%20Excellence/Math\\_Initiative.pdf](http://www.kingslocal.net/sites/kings/Curriculum/History%20of%20Excellence/Math_Initiative.pdf)) and literacy ([http://www.kingslocal.net/sites/kings/Curriculum/History%20of%20Excellence/Literacy\\_Initiative.pdf](http://www.kingslocal.net/sites/kings/Curriculum/History%20of%20Excellence/Literacy_Initiative.pdf)) initiatives aimed at improving student performance. Both of these initiatives have shown positive growth in student achievement.

- All elementary schools have an extensive leveled library so that teachers can teach to students' instructional reading levels.
- Professional development related to best practices in math and literacy instruction is ongoing. Teachers continue to develop and analyze assessments that effectively measure student learning and discuss instructional strategies to improve student performance.

K-8 teachers are using a web-based data management system to analyze standards-based assessment data to determine students' progress toward mastering curriculum standards. They use this data to inform instructional decisions and plan for intervention and enrichment activities. All elementary schools have a daily intervention/enrichment time. At the Junior High, students needing additional academic support are provided with time during the school day to work with the teachers in a small group setting.

## Kings High School Curriculum

Kings High School is a progress school offering a variety of opportunities for all students. Some of the highlights of the KHS's curriculum are:

- The high school offers **13 A.P. courses**— courses that are freshman-level college courses where students take an exam at the end of the course and, if they score high enough, are given credit at their college.
- The high school offers **4 dual enrollment courses** with plans to add up to 6 more for the 2010-2011 school year - These courses are taught by Kings teachers who are also qualified to teach at the college level. Students take the course for high school AND college credit at Kings, and pay for college credit through the college. Kings is currently working with Sinclair and Cincinnati State and, because the courses are T.A.G. (Transfer Assurance Guide) courses, they are transferable to any state college in Ohio.
- The high school offers **4 “academies”** - the Business Academy, the Digital Media Arts Academy, the Information Technology Academy, the Engineering Academy and take classes through Kings High School Virtual Academy. New for 2010-2011 are the Engineering Academy, which will introduce students to the various fields in Engineering and use a 1.3 million dollar piece of software from Siemens (awarded to the school through a grant), and the Virtual Academy, where students will have the opportunity to take 14 classes “virtually” but which are scheduled within their day. Some of the classes offered virtually include “Oceanography: A Virtual Semester at Sea,” “World Religions” and “Basic Mandarin: Chinese Language and Culture.”
- Kings High School continue to expand its course offerings to include higher level courses such as Multivariable Calculus and Forensic Science. KHS offers courses that help students better prepare for life, such as College Essentials and Personal Finance are offered.
- Kings High School will offer credit flexibility as an option for students starting in the 2010-2011 school year. Credit flexibility is an option where students show competency for and get a grade and credit in an existing high school course or for content not offered at the high school. More information, including the procedures and forms for credit flexibility will be available on the school's website.
- Kings' students are well rounded – they are required to perform 75 hours of community service and present as a reflection project.
- KHS offerings tutoring to any student in all subjects after school every day
- The High school guidance office features a college lecture series for students and parents each year; topics include:
  - The guidance office hosts more than 60 colleges each year to talk to students about their programs
  - KHS is a national test site for the ACT test

## Kings Junior High

- Kings Junior High utilizes the team approach for increased teacher collaboration to meet individual student needs.

- KJH students have elective opportunities in music, art, physical education, health and foreign language.
- Eligible students may also obtain high school credit for courses in math and foreign language in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Special Education**

ALL BUILDINGS OFFER A FULL CONTINUUM OF SERVICES BASED ON THE STUDENT'S LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT.

#### **PRESCHOOL**

- Shared classrooms (8 typically developing students: 4 students with disabilities)
- 2 cooperative classrooms with Warren County Career Center Early Childhood program
- Occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy services

#### **ELEMENTARY (K- 5)**

- Specialized small group instruction
- Team teaching
- Daily intervention specialist consultation with regular education teacher
- 3 Multi-Handicapped classrooms
- Occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy services

#### **JUNIOR HIGH (6-8)**

- Specialized small group instruction
- Co-teaching
- Occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy services
- 1 Multi-Handicapped classroom
- Resource classes offered for English, Science, Social Studies and Math
- Guided intervention study hall

#### **HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)**

- Specialized small group instruction
- Co-teaching in 4 main content areas (English, Math, Science, Social Studies)
- Occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy services
- 1 Multi-Handicapped classroom
- Resource classes offered for English, Science, Social Studies and Math, and Reading
- Guided intervention study hall

## Gifted Services

### Elementary and Junior High

- At grade 4, eligible students can participate in Reading enrichment and at grades 5 and 6 students can participate in both Reading and Math enrichment, which are taught by Gifted Intervention Specialists.
- In grade 7, students who qualify can participate in either Accelerated Math 7 or Algebra I. Students who successfully complete Accelerated Math 7 in 7<sup>th</sup> grade take Alg. I as 8<sup>th</sup> graders and receive high school credit. Students who complete Algebra I in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade typically take Honors Geometry as 8<sup>th</sup> graders for high school credit.
- In grades 7 and 8, eligible students can participate in Accelerated Language Arts taught by a Gifted Intervention Specialist.
- Eligible students in grade 8 can enroll in a high school level foreign language class and receive high school credit for graduation.

### High School

- The high school offers **13 A.P. courses** (freshman-level college courses for college credit if the student meets the requirements for credit).
- The high school offers **4 dual enrollment courses** with plans to add up to 6 more for the 2010-2011 school year
- The high school offers **26 honors courses**.