

To: Elementary Teachers, K-6

From: Cathy Bildhauser, Curriculum Director

CC: Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins  
Building Principals  
Instructional Coaches

Date: May 27, 2020

Re: Use of District Curriculum & technology resources

EL Education has been selected for the Elementary English/Language Arts Adoption that will launch in August 2020. This comprehensive, standards-based curriculum engages students and teachers in compelling, real-world content.

MCAS expectations are that teachers will use all components of the EL Education program sequentially beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. This includes the following components:

- Grades K-2: Modules & Skills Block
- Grades 3-5: Modules & ALL Block
- Grades 6: Modules

To support the launch of this program, professional development sessions will be offered this summer and a team of teacher leaders will support you throughout the implementation process during structured planning sessions, modeled classroom visits, and peer coaching designed to support your growth.

Our experience with the recent extended closure highlighted the need for consistent practices and delivery with virtual instruction. Therefore, we will be establishing new routines and expectations in this area beginning in August. Grades K-2 will be using Seesaw to deliver remote instruction, while grades 3-6 will utilize Google Classroom. Seesaw will still be available for teachers in grades 3-6 through Google Classroom. This will allow our families to be supported during any virtual learning and traditional learning experiences. Training dates for Seesaw will begin later this summer.

We will also utilize a comprehensive online assessment system, DnA, for all Ready Math and EL Education assessments in grades 3-6 to provide timely feedback and data analysis. Interim and short-cycle assessments will be developed this summer that will provide actionable, real-time feedback to accelerate student learning - this is critical as we look to minimize the impact of COVID-19. Curriculum maps will also be developed and report cards aligned prior to school opening in August.

Finally, as we work to ensure coherence across all MCAS buildings, we are expecting that all curriculum resources - ELED, Ready Mathematics, and iReady are used fully in all classrooms. We will no longer accept that a classroom teacher chooses to deviate from the district expectations. Our students deserve to have access to the high-quality curriculum that is provided and we will support you to ensure that you have the professional development opportunities aligned with these programs.

I look forward to seeing you at professional development sessions this summer!