



# Middletown City Schools

Curriculum and Instruction



# Curriculum and Instruction

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# Curriculum and Instruction within Middletown

## GOAL

Provide all students with ongoing, authentic learning experiences which are personally enriching, academically challenging, and sensitive to diverse perspectives. The District's scope and sequence outlines the content our educators will use to instruct all students, with an inclusive lens by actively engaging them in collaborative problem solving, thoughtful analysis, and reflection.

## WORK

Viewed through the lens of high expectations for all students in spaces where they are respected. The work of the District engages educators in thinking deeply about the inherent dignity of all students, what educators must do to be flexible and responsive to all students needs, and to continue to learn through dialogue with other professionals as well as through the use of resources and opportunities provided.

## VISION

On going refinement and revision of the curriculum, the resources used, and the instructional practices implemented in order to meet the diverse needs of our school community and create more inclusive, culturally responsive, anti-racist, and socially just spaces.

# Curriculum Goals from Summer 2020-2021

**Review** critical requisite standards and skills covered each quarter for success in each content area **so students can construct their own knowledge and understanding**

**Develop** a list of **standards, skills, concepts, and strategies** needing **enhancements, adjustments,** and robust **resource development**

**Create** school-year launch **resources** due to the COVID-19 interruption these toolkits **supported all educators with implementation of instructional best practices** and provided students with tangible resources to support their learning

**Collaborate** with teams of educators **to refine** scope and sequence documents (instructional framework), assessments and resource banks so educators can be flexible and responsive to all students' needs

**Develop strategies** and **resources** for creating a welcoming **classroom community** in a remote learning environment. Focusing on **connections with students before engaging in academic content (connections before content).**

# Professional Growth - New Teacher Orientation

- Getting to know Middletown's instructional model, culture & community
  - The Power of Diversity
  - Mindset Matters
  - Creating Positive Experiences for all Learners
  - The Brain
  - We are Middletown
- Introduction of Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Framework (CR-SF)
- Professional Practices and Reflection Choice Board
- Best Practices in a Remote Learning Environment



Culturally responsive education is knowing the student in front of you.

# Professional Learning and Growth - Superintendent Conference Days

- [Four Days - September 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th](#)
- These days focused on:
  - Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
  - Instructional Technology Supports
  - Curriculum Updates
  - School Year Launch
  - The Importance of Connection while Remote
  - Special Services protocols and supports
- Professional Development was led by the Curriculum & Instructional Team, Building Administrators, Technology, ELA & Mathematics Teachers On Special Assignment (TOSAs) and presenters from Second Step/School Connect (Social Emotional Programs)
- Staff utilized planning time to prepare for the start of the year
- Professional growth and Reflection [Choice Board](#)



# Professional Learning and Growth

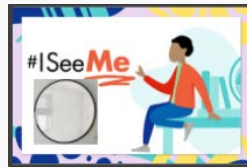
## October 23, 2020:

- Superintendent's Vision
- Board of Education [Resolution](#)
  - [Close Reading of the Resolution](#)
- Learning & Growing Together-  
[Cultural Analysis- Part 1](#)
- Reflection Upon One's Own  
Cultural Identity
- Staff Planning & Reflection
  - [Self-Guided Choice Board](#)

## October 30, 2020:

23 different offerings around these topics:

- Student Engagement
- Instructional Practices
- Student & Family Communication & Supports
- Best Practices for Hybrid/Remote Learning
- Instructional Technology Resources



# English Language Arts (ELA) Resources

**What we purchased:** Last year we purchased culturally diverse book collections for grades PreK-3 and continue to make forward progress by expanding purchases to Gr. 4-12

## **Why we made these purchases:**

- When students see themselves in the books they read and they have choice in their text selection they are more likely to read more, understand more, and continue to read beyond the classroom.
- Engage students in authentic reading experiences through voice and choice in both content required reading and independent reading.
- Our curriculum work included the addition of culturally diverse text choices in classroom read alouds, small group instruction choices, independent reading and take home texts.
- Multicultural literature serves as a powerful tool in enabling students to gain a better understanding of both their own culture and the cultures of others.



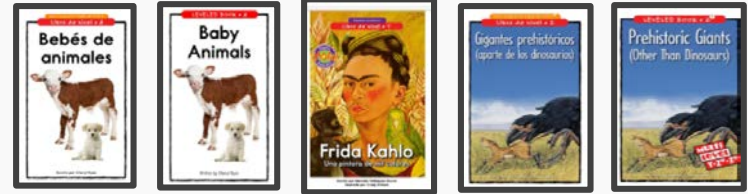


# English Language Learners (ELL) Resources

**What we purchased:** [Reading A-Z Digital Books](#) for our ELLs  
(Grades K-8)

**Why we purchased:**

- To enhance reading skills and instruction for our bilingual and multilingual students.
- The writing component engages students in applying, synthesizing and evaluating traits of writing.
- Builds a strong connection between home and school by providing practical tips and resources in multiple languages for families to access at home.



**What we purchased: (Grades 6-12)**

- [MANGO](#), an award winning language learning resource was purchased to support all language learners in our English as a New Language (ENL) and Languages other than English (LOTE) programs.

**Why we purchased:**

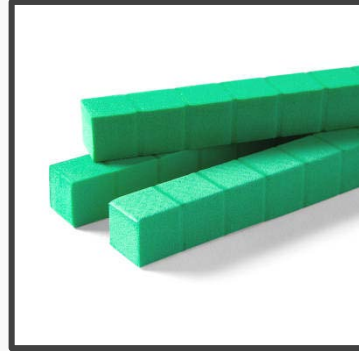
- **It combines quality** content, technology and adaptive language learning methodologies to meet the individualized needs of our second language and multilingual learners.



# K-5 Mathematics At-Home Learning Resources

## What we purchased

- K-5 Mathematics at-home learning kits
- Mini white boards and dry erase markers
- Literature for teachers (ie, Jumpstart Routines, Number Talk Guides, Math in Practice, Visualizing & Investigating Big Ideas)



HUNDRED BOARD									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

# K-5 Mathematics At-Home Learning Resources

Each grade level kit should contain:

## Kindergarten

Description	Qty. per kit
Linking Cubes	1 individual set
Foam Five Frames	1
Magnetic ten frame 10/20	1
Dry Erase 100 Chart	1
2 Color Counters	50
Plastic Dice	4
Dominoes	1 set
Deck of Cards	1 set

## First Grade

Description	Qty. per kit
Linking Cubes	1 individual set
Magnetic ten frame 10/20	1
Dry Erase 120 Chart	1
2 Color Counters	50
Plastic Dice	4
Dominoes	1 set
Deck of Cards	1 set

## Second Grade

Description	Qty. per kit
Linking Cubes	1 individual set
Magnetic ten frame 10/20	1
Base Ten Blocks	1 individual set
Square Tiles	50
2 Color Counters	50
Ruler	1
Dodecahedron Dice	2
Dry Erase Blank Number Line	1
Dominoes	1 set
Deck of Cards	1 set
Plastic Dice	4
Tape Measure	1

## Third Grade

Description	Qty. per kit
Fraction Circles	1 set
Fraction Towers	1 set
2 Color Counters	50
Dry Erase Blank Number Line	1
Dominoes	1 set
Deck of Cards	1 set



## Fourth & Fifth Grade

Description	Qty. per kit
Fraction Circles	1 set
Dry Erase Blank Number Line	1
Dominoes	1 set
Deck of Cards	1 set
Fraction Towers	1 set

# STEM 6-12 At Home Learning Resources

## Why we purchased (To engage all scholars by giving them...)

- Hands-on tools to effectively engage all scholars in a remote environment using the same tools available during in-person brick and mortar mathematics instruction
- Geometric sets allow for students to measure and create diagrams in a remote setting
- Graphing and scientific calculators for students to quickly compute solutions, create tables, and analyze graphs
- Notebooks for students to write and organize their thinking (Lined and graphed)
- Colored Pencils for students to organize their learning using diagrams that will require highlighting specific portions with colors
- Resources for educators to prepare for the demands of remote learning and to make needed adjustments that will serve all students.

### GRADES 6 - 8



### GRADES 9 - 12



# Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Resources

**What we purchased:** Social Emotional Learning, grades K - 12



**Why we purchased:**

- All of our students deserve to feel respected, safe and secure. The K-5 program launched an SEL block last year and we continued forward progress this year and launched an SEL block in grades 6-12. This creates a district-wide approach to improvement in emotion management, situational awareness, and academic achievement. Students to learn invaluable skills that help them navigate their way through school as well as their community.
- Addressing the need to support students social, emotional, and academic skills and strengthen relationships among students and between students and teachers. This work is critical to success in school, the workplace, and life in general: social awareness, self-awareness, self-management, relationship skills, and responsible decision making.
- Programs can be flexibly implemented and delivered either synchronously, asynchronously, or in-person.

**What we purchased:** K - 12 Self Regulation Kits

**Why we purchased:** Kits help students channel their energy, achieve a sense of emotional well-being, and provide choice to students in utilizing a variety of self regulation tools.

# Continued Progress

Additional professional learning experiences throughout the year:

- November 20 and December 18 for all staff
  - Welcoming and Affirming Environments
  - High Expectations and Rigorous Instruction
- [Courageous Conversations](#) about race - for all admins (Winter)
- Curriculum and Instruction Listening Sessions - Town Halls designed to provide educators throughout the district opportunities to provide feedback on needed/requested support. (January - dates will be announced)

# Future Board of Education Meetings

- Subsequent Board of Education meetings will include presentations on the following areas:
  - Curriculum & Instruction - ELL/BiLingual/World Languages, Humanities, Special Education, and STEM
  - Equity Audit
  - Code of Conduct
  - Professional Development