

# ***Library-Media Program Review***

**Bridgewater-Raritan Regional School District**

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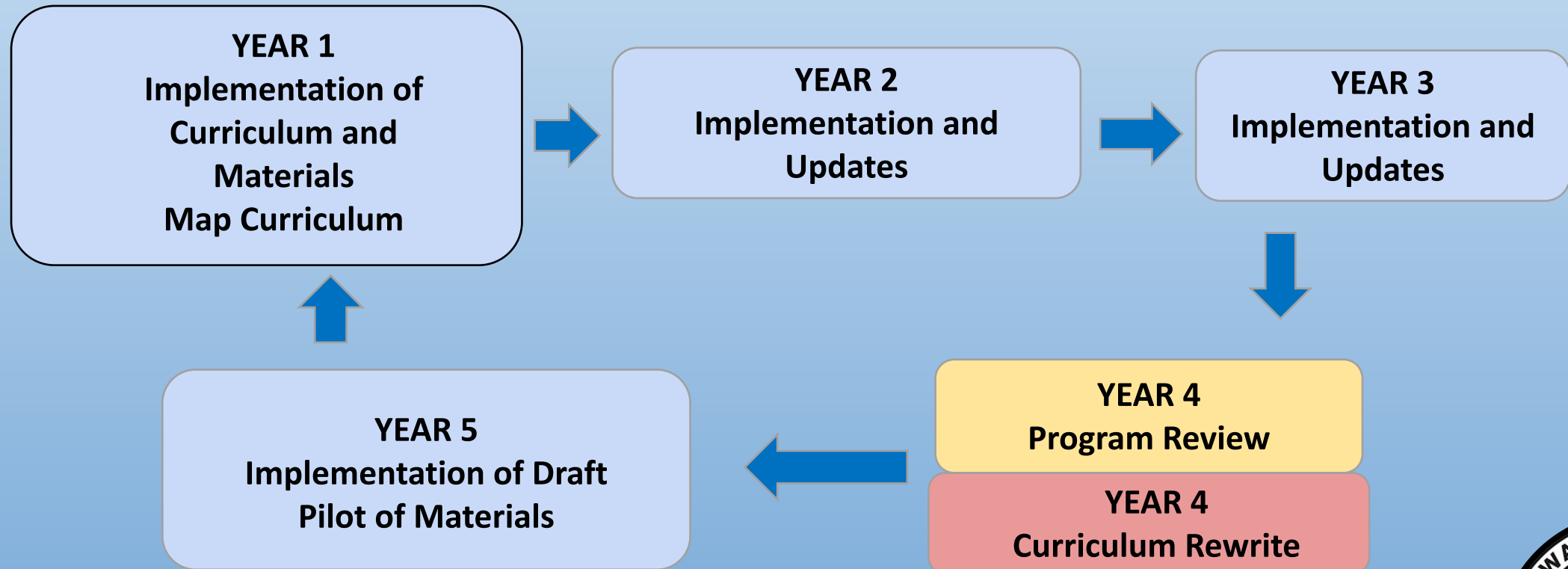
# Goals and Purpose

- A description of the program
- A review of the curriculum, instruction, assessment, resources and professional development
- Site visits
- Summary of survey responses
- Recommendations for curriculum revision process

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# The 5-Year Cycle



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# *Year 4 Breakdown*

## PROGRAM REVIEW (Part 1)

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION  
(CURRENT)**  
Staffing, Resources...



Guiding  
Questions

Survey  
Results



What Others  
Do/Model  
Programs



Program Recommendations  
and Recommendations for  
Curriculum Revisions

## CURRICULUM REWRITE (Part 2)

Assemble Team of  
Curriculum  
Rewriters



Establish Vision for  
Curriculum Document  
and  
Department



Determine Scope & Sequence/Establish  
Themes/Enduring  
Understanding/Essential Questions/Unit  
Assessments/Evidence of Learning



Composition  
of Units

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# Current Program

- Curriculum
- Instruction
- Assessment
- Resources / Professional Development

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# Current Program

## Curriculum:

- The current curriculum was written and approved in 1996.
- A draft of a new curriculum was written in 2012. However, it was never approved by the Board of Education.
- The media specialist job description was written in 1993.
- Curriculum is outdated and not aligned to the current New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) and American Association of School Librarian Standards (AASL) which were released in fall of 2017.

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# Current Program

## Instruction:

- As a result of the curriculum being outdated, library instruction and learning experiences vary in each building.
- Some lessons are designed to complement the curriculum taught in the classroom.
- The K-5 library instruction includes the reading of stories, lecture, questioning, projects (group and individual), and guided practice.
- Some makerspace activities are introduced into the library program.
- At the middle school and high school, the library becomes a research center to which teachers may bring their classes.
- Databases, software and Destiny usage are included in Program Review Document.

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# Current Program

## Assessment

- Students do not receive a grade for library cycle.
- Assessments are informal and vary from building to building.
- There is not a standard grade-level assessment for all students.

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# Current Program

## Resources

- Device distribution K-6 vary based on building. 7-12 the library/media center has access to desktops, laptops and chromebooks.
- Makerspace materials vary based on each building.
- Library Media Center budget varies at each building.

## Professional Development

- Library Media Specialists have received little job-related professional development.

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# Site Visits

Site visits were conducted by a BRRSD team including classroom teachers, computer teachers, library media specialists and a principal. Site visits occurred inside and outside of the county, as well as above and below our DFG. Other “I” school districts were researched but not visited. These districts include Ramsey in Bergen County, and Hopewell in Mercer County.

School District	County	District Factor Group	# Schools	# Students
Morris School District	Morris	GH	10	6,000
Somerville	Somerset	FG	3	2,500
Flemington-Raritan	Hunterdon	I	6	4,500
West Windsor- Plainsboro	Mercer	J	10	10,000
Hillsborough	Somerset	I	9	7,500

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# Survey Responses

K- 6 Library Media Responses	7-12 Library Media Responses
Parent Survey = 117 responses	Parent Survey = 41 responses
Student Survey = 18 responses	Student Survey= 23 responses
Staff Survey = 89 responses	Staff Survey= 103 responses

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# K-6 Survey Summary

## K-6 Parent survey:

- reported the need for the library special to teach note-taking and research skills.
- reported the need for STEAM-based activities and makerspaces to be incorporated into the library instruction.

## K-6 Teacher survey:

- reported that a Library/Media Center special is an integral part of students' academic studies/experiences.
- reported that the library books, online materials, and databases adequately enhance the current curriculum.
- reported that time to collaborate with the librarians would help support curricular connections.

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# 7-12 Survey Summary

- Parents and students report that students spend time in the library to find materials, do research, or work on projects.
- Students also report going to the library to use computers/printers as well as to study and do homework.
- Common trends in responses state the library needs to be more accessible during the day as well as before and after school.

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# Recommendations are based on:

- Assessment of our current program
- Survey results
- Site visits
- Research of best practices
- Evaluation of standards (NJ SLS, AASL, ISTE)
- Conversations with district staff

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“Every student has the potential to carry a global library on the device in his or her pocket. As a result, the role of libraries is no longer just a place to house resources, but one in which to create meaning from them. Where traditional libraries are often characterized as places of silent, independent study, the libraries of the 21st century provide a welcoming common space that encourages exploration, creation, and collaboration between students and teachers” (Edutopia, 2015).

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# Program Recommendations

PROGRAM

CURRICULUM WRITING

ASSESSMENT

RESOURCES

PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

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# Program Recommendations

## PROGRAM:

- Create consistency in the implementation of our curriculum districtwide.
- Explore opportunities in scheduling for library/media specialist to collaborate with classroom teachers at grade level meetings and with computer teacher to support integration of technology.

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# Program Recommendations

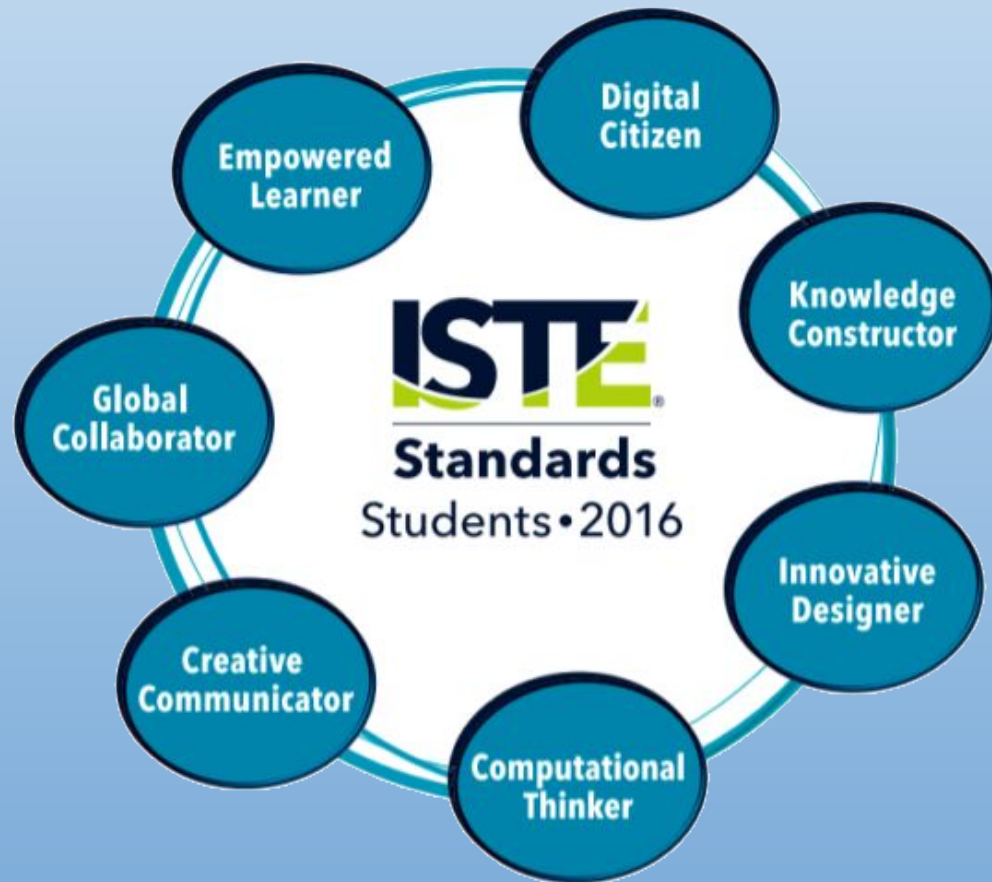


- Align the curriculum to the new *AASL standards* released in fall 2017.
  - Inquire
  - Include
  - Collaborate
  - Curate
  - Explore
  - Engage

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# Program Recommendations



- Enhance the library media curriculum with the infusion of the *ISTE standards*.

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# Program Recommendations



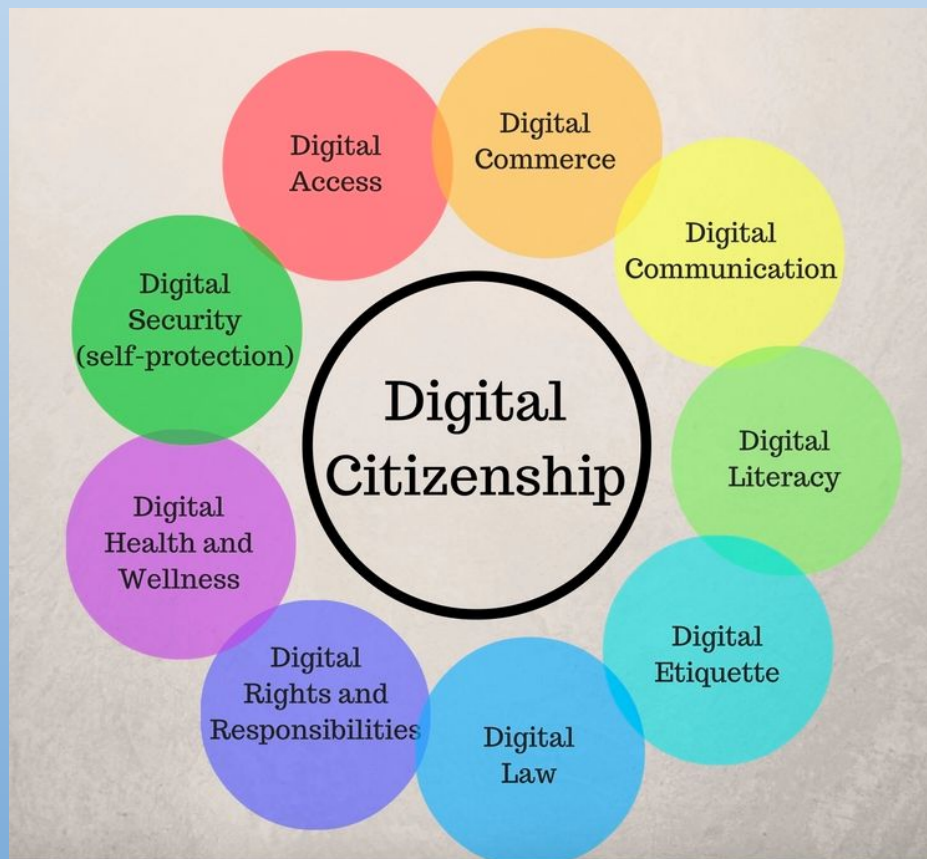
- Infuse *Makerspace* activities into the library media curriculum.
- A Makerspace is:
  - a space where students actively participates through hands on, collaborative learning experiences that generate problem-solving and critical thinking skills as well as innovation and creativity.

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# Program Recommendations



- Infuse *digital citizenship* strands into curriculum.

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# Program Recommendations



- Create a learning commons philosophy for Grades 6-12.
- Learning commons are a hub for the school community that should encourage teachers and students to think, design, collaborate, inquire, share, solve problems, and develop skills as independent learners and innovators.

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# Program Recommendations

- Kindergarten students will visit the library for book exchanges and library orientations.
- Create equitable access to technology in the K-6 library media centers.
- Evaluate and explore options to have the middle school and high school library more accessible to students.
- Revise the librarian media specialist job description.

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# Program Recommendations

## CURRICULUM WRITING:

- Curriculum writing in Spring of 2018
- Curriculum revisions in Spring of 2019

## ASSESSMENT:

- Create consistent assessment criteria for measuring the program's growth.

## RESOURCES:

- Purchase chromebook carts for library/media center.
- Upgrade storage furniture
- Purchase makerspace materials that is equitable at each school.
- Evaluate software subscriptions; renew or replace based on findings.

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# Program Recommendations

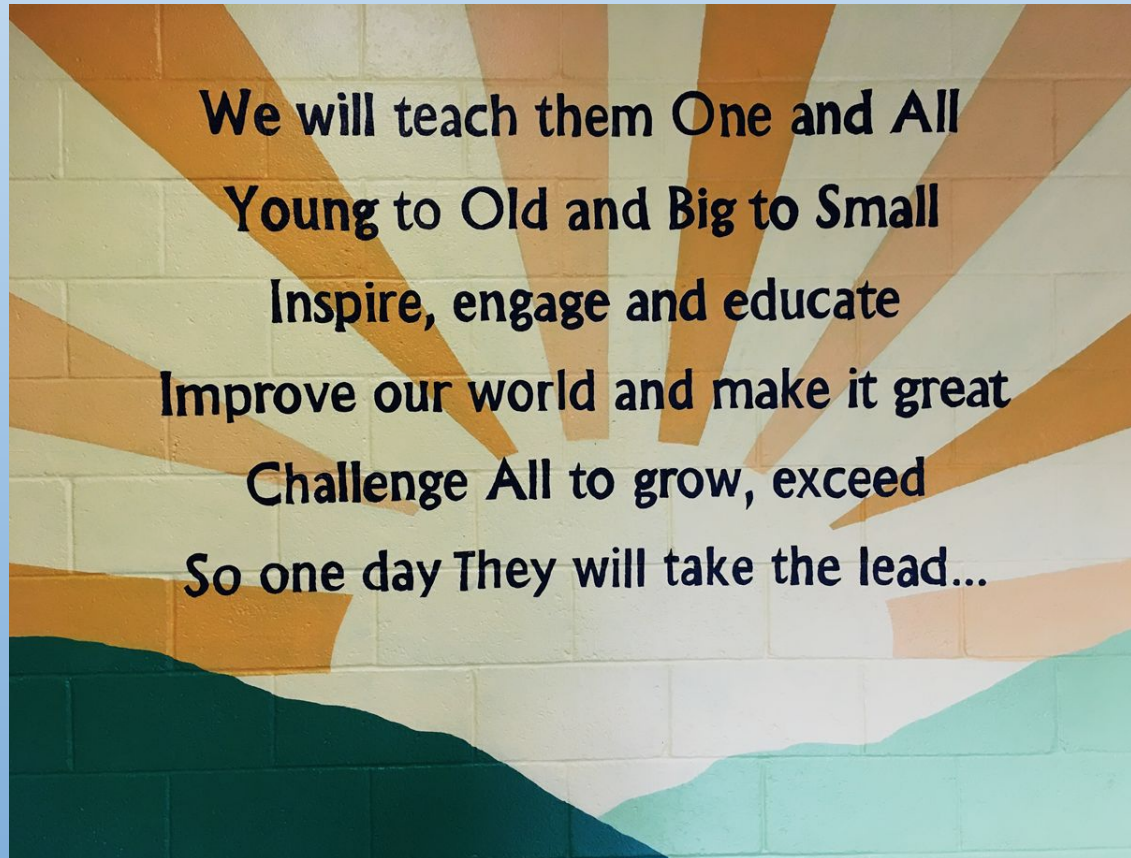
## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- A plan will be created in order to provide ongoing, targeted professional development for our staff.
- Provide professional development on implementing Maker Spaces, the Learning Commons Philosophy and new AASL standards.
- Survey library/media specialists to evaluate professional development needs.

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# Thank you.



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