



**Barre Unified Union School District**

**Spaulding High School  
Central Vermont Career Center  
Barre City Elementary and Middle School  
Barre Town Middle and Elementary School**

*Chris Hennessey, M.Ed.*  
Superintendent of Schools

*A rock solid education for a lifetime of discovery*

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Barre Unified Union School District Curriculum Committee  
Renee Badeau (Chair), Alice Farrell (Vice Chair), Tim Boltin

**DATE:** January 19, 2022

**RE:** BUUSD Curriculum Committee Meeting  
January 25, 2022 @ 5:30 pm  
**In-Person Option:** BUUSD Central Office, 120 Ayers Street, Barre  
**Remote Options:** Google Meeting ID: [meeting link](#)  
Phone Number: 1-413-327-0525 PIN: 177 328 274#

*If you attend the meeting remotely you must state your name for the record to satisfy the Open Meeting Law.*

## **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Additions/Changes to Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - 4.1. Meeting minutes from November 16, 2021
5. New Business
  - 5.1. Review of Fall Assessment Results (Math, ELA)
  - 5.2. Director of Curriculum Hiring Process
6. Old Business
7. Other Business
8. Items for Future Agenda
9. Next Meeting Date: February 22, 2022 at 5:30 pm
10. Adjournment

### Parking Lot of items:

- Local Formative Testing, Including Results
- Report on How planning to date has impacted Student Learning
- PE Presentation
- Special Educator's Office Presentation
- Allied Arts Presentation
- Professional Development
- Organizational Flow Chart (outline)(personnel fit/responsibilities)

### BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETING NORMS

- Keep the best interest of the school and children in mind, while balancing the needs of the taxpayers
- Make decisions based on clear information
- Honor the board's decisions
- Keep meetings short and on time
- Stick to the agenda
- Keep remarks short and to the point
- Everyone gets a chance to talk before people take a second turn
- Respect others and their ideas

# DRAFT

4.1

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING**  
BUUSD Central Office and Via Video Conference – Google Meet  
November 16, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.

## MINUTES

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Renee Badeau, Chair (BT)  
Alice Farrell, Vice-Chair (BC)  
Tim Boltin, (BC)

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

### ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent

### OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

### COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Venus Dean                      Christine Farnham                      Karen Fredericks                      Jean Haeger                      Ben Matthews  
Lorraine Morris

#### **1. Call to Order**

**The Chair, Ms. Badeau, called the Tuesday, November 16, 2021, BUUSD Curriculum Committee meeting to order at 5:32 p.m., which was held at the BUUSD Central Office and via video conference.**

#### **2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda**

None.

#### **3. Public Comment**

None.

#### **4. Approval of Minutes -**

##### **4.1 September 28, 2021 Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes**

**On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Ms. Badeau, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2021 BUUSD Curriculum Committee Meeting.**

#### **5. New Business**

##### **5.1 Introduction of Curriculum Team**

Mr. Hennessey advised that the current Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment has resigned from her position and will be finishing up this week. Mr. Hennessey is very confident that good progress can be made through the rest of the year. A decision has been made not to replace Ms. Simmons with an interim Director of Curriculum. There will be a thoughtful process to fill the position for next year. It was noted that the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment position entails two areas; curriculum, instruction & assessment, and grant management (which is a very large piece).

Mr. Hennessey advised that the Curriculum Team has been invited to attend this evening's meeting, and asked team members to introduce themselves. Team members provided a brief overview of their experience within the District. The following are the individuals and their current position within the District:

Christine Farnham – Math Instructional Coach  
Lorraine Morris – Literacy Instructional Coach  
Karen Fredericks – MTSS Coordinator  
Venus Dean – Math Interventionist at BCEMS

Jean Haeger – Great Schools' Partnership – introduced herself and advised how she has been working with the District to improve curriculum and instruction.

# DRAFT

## 5.2 Plan for the Year

Ms. Dean reported that upon learning of Ms. Simmons exit, the Curriculum Team advised Mr. Hennessey that they would like to develop a Curriculum Steering Committee, in part, to evaluate current systems. They would like to document where students were pre-covid, and evaluate them now to see how much ground has been lost, and create a 3 year professional development plan to move the District back in the direction it needs to go. Great Schools' Partnership would be very involved in this process. It is hoped to develop more written curriculum materials, similar to what the Virtual Academy had last year. Ms. Haeger expressed her appreciation for the thoughtful Recovery Plan that was written this year, as well as the Strategic Plan. These documents provide a clear roadmap of where the District is headed. Mr. Hennessey advised that there will be a hard, close look at what the District wants to 'get from this position', and will possibly involve restructuring the entire Curriculum Team. The District needs to assure that curriculum development encompasses grades K – 12. Mrs. Farrell noted that the District has been 'behind the 8 ball' since before COVID. So much time has been spent planning and changing plans. Mrs. Farrell wants to know what is actually being done to assist the kids in improving their skills and mastering the necessary math and literacy skills. Mrs. Farrell expressed frustration that through many years of 'planning', and the number of years that the Team Members have been in the District, kids have flat lined all the way through and we haven't seen any improvement in test scores to show that students are mastering the necessary skills. Mrs. Farrell queried that if the District is spending all its time planning, when are plans going to be implemented that will really help the children? Mrs. Farrell reiterated that the District was below the 'red line' pre-covid and that covid only pushed the District further below the red line. There are '2 elevator floors to go up'. Ms. Dean reported that prior to covid, the District had (in the Math Department) been working on differentiation and inclusion, training all teachers in the District, and she believes progress was being made. Ms. Dean believes that teachers are currently 'maxed out' and can't handle much more curriculum other than the day to day work. Ms. Dean believes the District needs to hold discussion regarding how students are assessed (not just SBAC testing). Ms. Fredericks noted that the 'history' of those on the Curriculum Team makes them aware that students are not making the gains that are necessary, and is what has brought the Team Members to the positions that they are in now. Team Members want to assist teachers in improving curriculum and she believes their existing relationships with staff will assist with this effort. Ms. Fredericks advised regarding the use of Professional Learning Committees that are currently in place. Mr. Hennessey advised that in the short term, there will be planning for upcoming Professional Development days and a lot of work going into the process of choosing the next Curriculum Director. There will be a lot of ground level, coaching level, 'working with kids' work from now until the end of the school year. Mr. Hennessey will be working on an updated Work Plan for the remainder of the year.

## 6. Old Business

It was noted that the Allied Arts presentation slated for this meeting has been postponed.

## 7. Other Business

None.

## 8. Items for Future Agendas

Mrs. Farrell is concerned that test results from fall testing have not been shared. For transparency reasons, Mrs. Farrell would like fall testing results shared at the January meeting. (Already in the Parking Lot).

Mrs. Farrell would like to have a future agenda item for local formative testing, which includes what is being tested and what the results are, (e.g., have 3<sup>rd</sup> graders learned their 9 X tables).

Mrs. Farrell would like a report on how all of the planning thus far has impacted students/student learning.

**Agenda items for the January meeting are to be determined.**

### Add to Parking Lot:

- Local Formative Testing, Including Results
- Report on How Planning to Date Has Impacted Student Learning

## 9. Next Meeting Date

The December 28, 2021 meeting is cancelled.

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the BUUSD Central Office and via video conference.

## 10. Adjournment

**On a motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Ms. Badeau, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:04 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Andrea Poulin*

5.1

# Mid-year Literacy and Math Assessment Data

January 25th, 2022



Barre Unified Union School District

# STAR 360 Assessments

- District Benchmark Assessment that is used in 3rd through 9th grade level
  - ELA since 2019-2020
  - Math since 2020-2021
- Screening Windows: Fall, Winter, and Spring
- Teachers and Interventionists follow up as needed with other diagnostic assessments to target instruction.

# How are teachers using STAR Data?



**Instructional Planning-Class Report** identifies focus skills for particular classes or groups



**Monitor Student Mastery Dashboard** reveals mastery of standards in each domain for individual students in classes or groups.



**Instructional Planning Student Report** recommends for individual students



**State Standards Mastery Report** displays all standards for each domain by student.



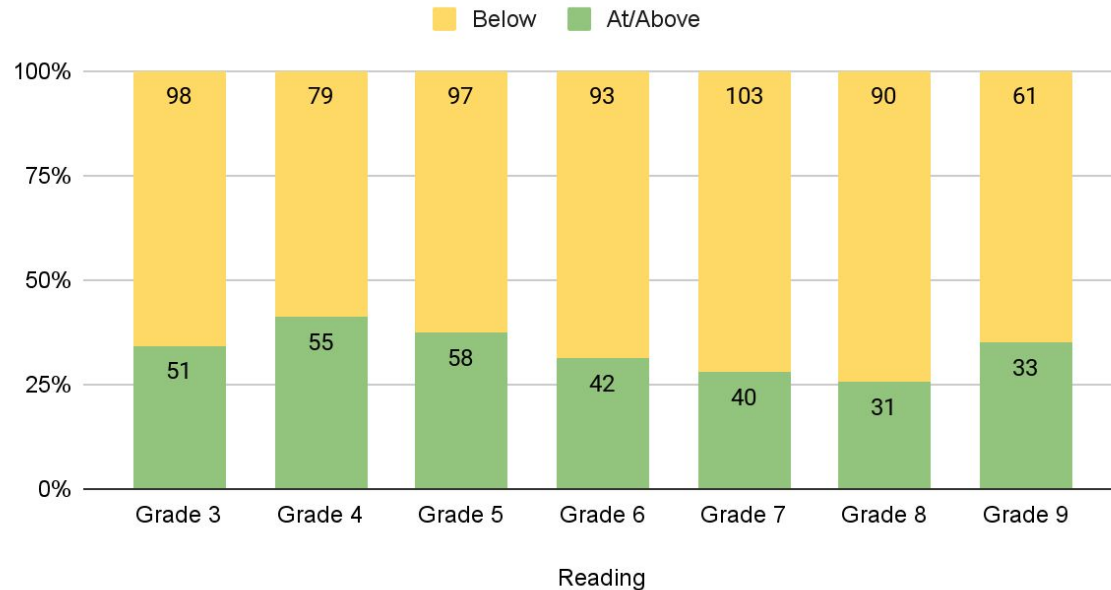
**Star Growth Report** shows growth for a group of students over time. Calculates if they are “low proficiency, but high growth.”

Reading



# Reading

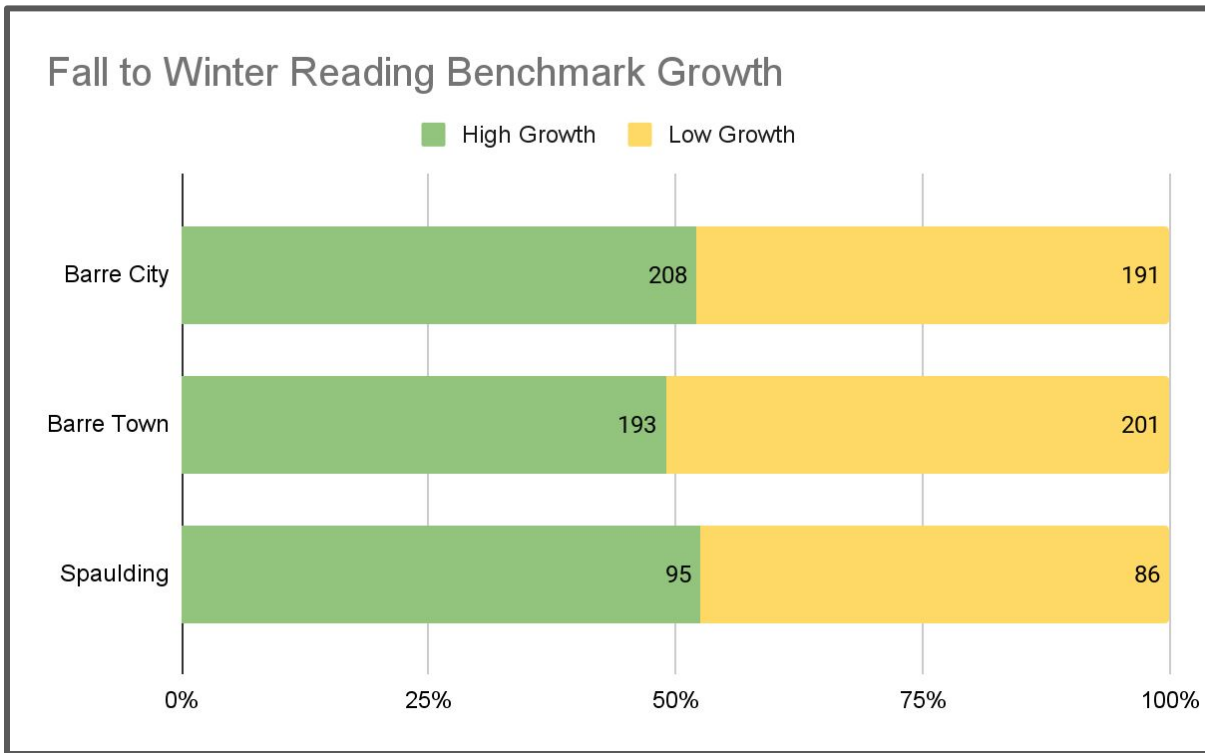
Proficiency by Grade



District Summary  
931 students have been assessed (80%). 33% of these students fall in the proficient or above range. 67% fall below.

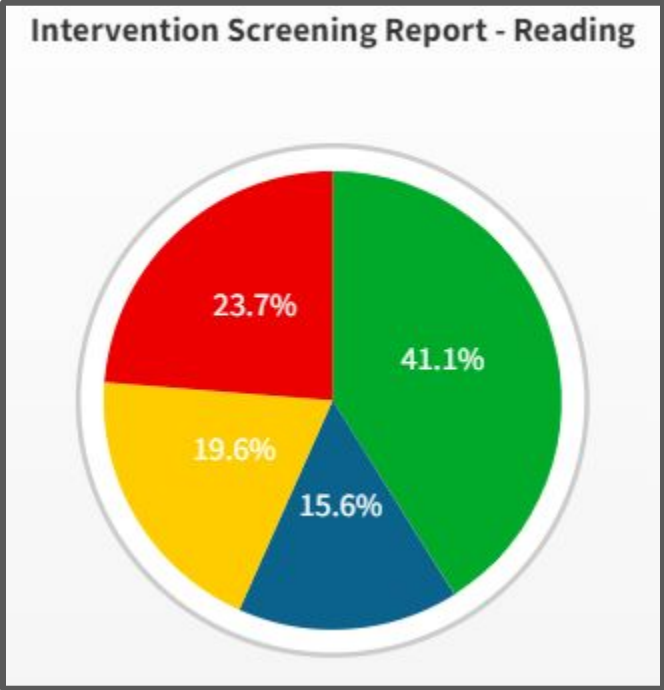
\*The screening window for Spaulding ends 2/4/22.

# Growth Percentages in Reading for 3rd-9th Grade Level Students



Note: growth comparisons were made for students who took both the fall and winter assessments.

# District Distribution of Student Benchmark Categories: Reading



**Benchmark Categories (District):**

At/Above Benchmark	41.1%
On Watch	15.6%
Intervention	19.6%
Urgent Intervention	23.7%
No Data	

# Longitudinal Data for Reading

Grade

**4th**

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	4	
2020 - 2021	3	
2019 - 2020	2	No Activity Data Found

Grade

**5th**

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	5	
2020 - 2021	4	
2019 - 2020	3	

Grade

**6th**

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	6	
2020 - 2021	5	
2019 - 2020	4	

Grade

**7th**

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	7	
2020 - 2021	6	
2019 - 2020	5	

Grade

**8th**

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	8	
2020 - 2021	7	
2019 - 2020	6	

Grade

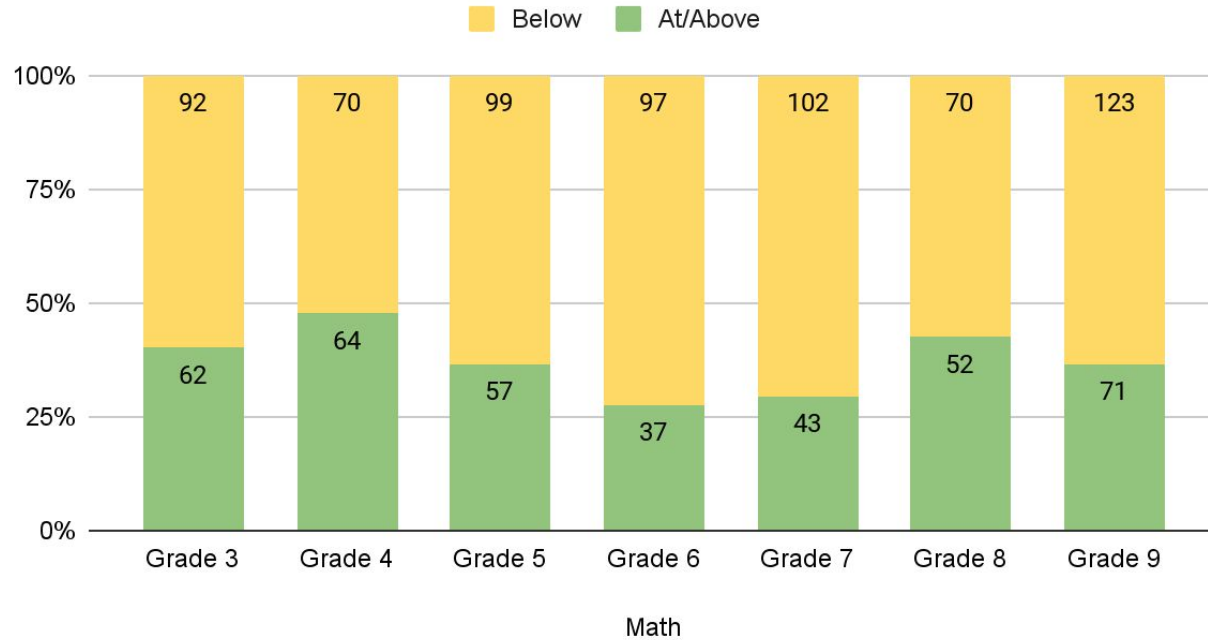
**9th**

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	9	
2020 - 2021	8	
2019 - 2020	7	

Math

# Math

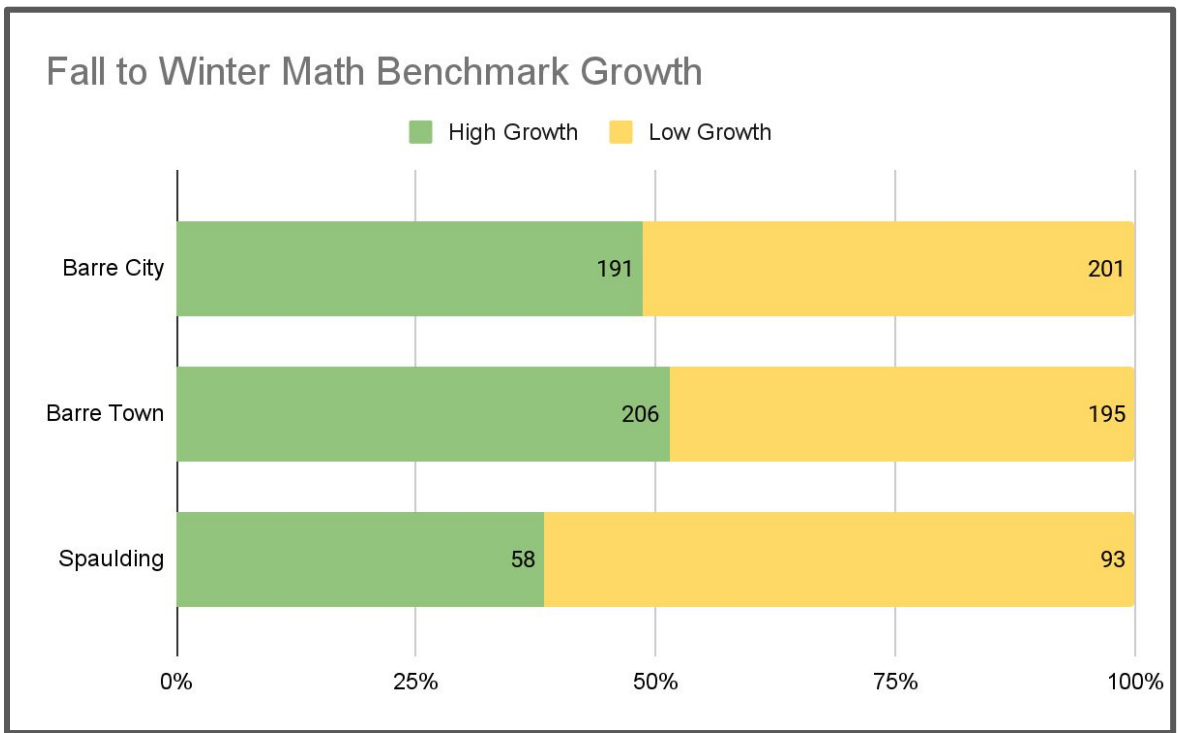
## Proficiency by Grade



District Summary  
1040 students have been assessed (90%). 37% of these students fall in the proficient or above range. 63% fall below.

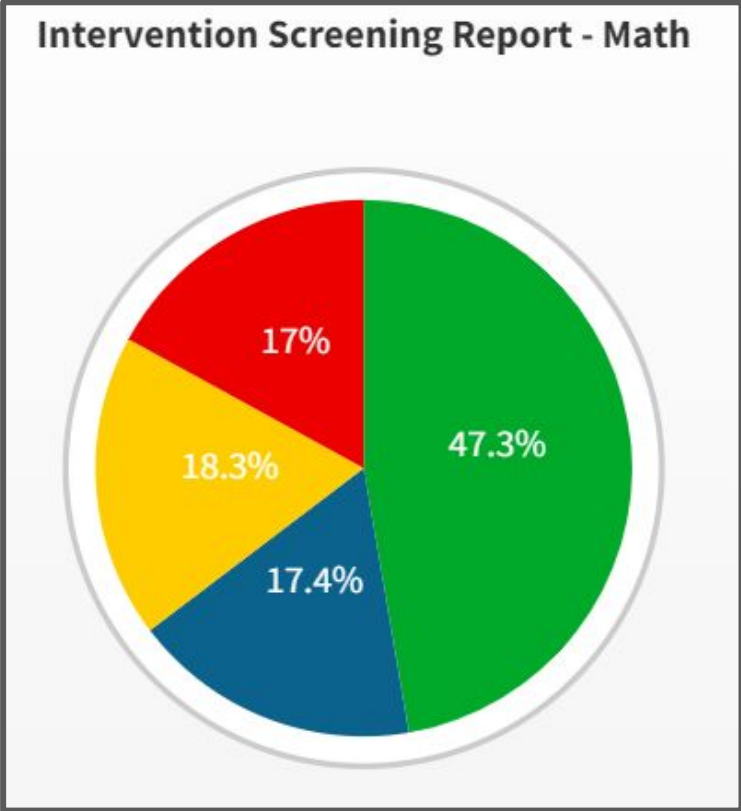
\*The screening window for Spaulding ends 2/4/22.

# Growth Percentages in Math for 3rd-9th Grade Level Students



Note: growth comparisons were made for students who took both the fall and winter assessments.

# District Distribution of Student Benchmark Categories: Reading



**Benchmark Categories (District):**

At/Above Benchmark	47.3%
On Watch	17.4%
Intervention	18.3%
Urgent Intervention	17%
No Data	



# Longitudinal Data for Math

## Grade 4th

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	4	
2020 - 2021	3	
2019 - 2020	2	No Activity Data Found

## Grade 5th

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	5	
2020 - 2021	4	
2019 - 2020	3	No Activity Data Found

## Grade 6th

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	6	
2020 - 2021	5	
2019 - 2020	4	No Activity Data Found

## Grade 7th

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	7	
2020 - 2021	6	
2019 - 2020	5	No Activity Data Found

## Grade 8th

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	8	
2020 - 2021	7	
2019 - 2020	6	No Activity Data Found

## Grade 9th

School Year	Grade	% Benchmark Distribution
2021 - 2022	9	
2020 - 2021	8	
2019 - 2020	7	No Activity Data Found

## Using data to inform our instruction

- What do we want our students to know?
- What instructional strategies will we use to help students learn?
- How will we know if they've learned it?
- What will we do in response?

# Where does our work intersect with the data?

- Intentional Groupings
- Literacy and Math Menu decisions
- Instructional Coaching
- Professional Development (i.e. building assessment literacy among faculty)
- Allocation of resources (i.e. invest in training for classroom teachers to improve universal instruction)
- Prioritizing efforts related to the Recovery Plan For example [Curriculum Work and Development Steering](#)



# BUUSD Curriculum Work and Development Request Form

Complete this form if you would like to make a proposal to work on curriculum, instruction, and/or assessment outside of the contracted day.

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The respondent's email (**null**) was recorded on submission of this form.

\* Required

1. Email \*

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2. Which Curriculum Leader is aware of the work you are proposing to do?

*Mark only one oval.*

- Chris Farnham (Math)
- Jessica Roy (Science K-4)
- Tim Sanborn (Science 5-8)
- Kendra Pillsbury (Social Studies)
- Lorraine Morris (Literacy)
- Anne Leads (Art/Design Lab)
- Jodi Bushway (PE)
- Ally Tarwater (Music)
- Mariah Jacobs (Behavior)
- Lauren Singer (Health)

3. Please provide a brief description of the work you are proposing to do (including how long it will take to complete--in hours--and what materials or supplies you will need). \*

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Strategic Plan  
Steering

For this work to be approved, it will need to address a number of the goals related to our Strategic Plan.

- 4. In order to ensure continuity between classrooms and schools, how does the work you are proposing to do help us move towards curriculum alignment? \*

\_\_\_\_\_

- 5. Who from the partnering school (preK-8) will you be collaborating with? \*

\_\_\_\_\_

- 6. Who from your own building will you be collaborating with? \*

\_\_\_\_\_

- 7. How will the work you are developing be made accessible to other teachers? \*

\_\_\_\_\_

- 8. How will the work you are proposing support the implementation of multiple modes of instruction to reach all students? \*

\_\_\_\_\_

- 9. How will the work support expanding student critical thinking skills? \*

\_\_\_\_\_

- 10. What opportunities exist to relate this work to developed (or developing) interdisciplinary units? \*

\_\_\_\_\_

## COVID Correlations

11. Has COVID increased the need for you to do this work? If so, how?

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Google Forms

**Director of Curriculum Search Process and Timeline  
(Draft - Dates will not be determined until committee meets.)**

The 10 person search committee will be chaired by Carol Marold and will consist of:

- Brenda Waterhouse, SHS Principal
- Jen Nye, Elementary Principal BTMES
- Olivia Kane, Asst Principal, BCEMS
- Stacy Anderson, Director of Special Services
- Lorraine Morris, Curriculum Coach
- Chris Farnham, Math Coach
- BUUSD Teachers
- Carol Marold, BSU Director of Human Resources

**Target Completion Dates**

February 14	Posting Closes
February TBD	Committee Review and Interview Prep
February TBD	Committee Interviews and Selection
March TBD	Superintendent Interview(s)
March TBD	Board Approval

Updated Jan 18, 2022