

Direct-to-Teacher Communication

November 14, 2024

Professional
Learning

Accountability

MTSS

MTSS Mondays, taking place on the last Monday (unless otherwise noted) of each month, will allow MTSS Leadership Team Lead Contacts to receive support in preparing for their MTSS Leadership Team meetings. This is your chance to discuss what data should be shared ([month-by-month](#)) and possible implications for strengthening your school's MTSS implementation. You can access the dates and times of the MTSS Mondays [HERE](#). This information is also posted on the [All Things MTSS](#) webpage.

“W.I.N” Wednesdays (What I Need) are biweekly office hours to allow Lead Contacts to ask school-specific questions related to MTSS implementation. This time will also include mini-PD opportunities and MTSS updates. These office hours will take place on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

You can access the dates and times of the office hours [HERE](#). This information is also posted on the [All Things MTSS](#) webpage.

i-Ready: Click [HERE](#) for upcoming i-Ready Master Teacher (Grades 6 -12 only) support. Check out the [All Things i-Ready](#) document to support your school with i-Ready implementation.

Pop-in PD is available for **DreamBox**. Schedule a 15-minute session with a DreamBox Professional Development Specialist to answer any questions you may have regarding DreamBox. The sessions are intended to be used in a 1:1 setting, or with no more than 5 educators for a grade level/PLC meeting. **These sessions are NOT intended to address rostering, technology, or access concerns. For CMS account related questions, please put in a Cherwell ticket.**

DreamBox Pop-in PD Raffle: Schedule a Pop-in PD and win! Click [HERE](#) for more information.

DreamBox Tidbits: [CMS Did you Know? Quantile Assignment Update](#)

BrM Hub will be available beginning November 1, 2024. The BrM Hub will include self-paced modules to support your implementation with Branching Minds. Click [HERE](#) to watch a short video for additional details.

Branching Minds: Click [here](#) for PD.

For all questions or concerns, please contact the MTSS Specialists at MTSSSpecialists@cms.k12.nc.us.

Multilingual Learners

Sort, Order, Label

Teacher Directions

- Students work in groups of 2-4
- Each group receives an envelope, and they do not open the envelope until directed.
- Student A picks a card and describes it to the group, and then states in which category he wants to place the card, *justifying the reason*. (Provide Sentence Stems)
- The other students agree or disagree. If they agree, Student B picks a different card and repeats the process. If they disagree, they state why and suggest a different placement. Partners discuss and reach a consensus before continuing.
- Students decide on labels for their categories.
- Share across groups, explaining reasoning.

Student Directions

- You will work in groups of 2-4
- Each group will receive an envelope, but do not open it until I tell you.
- One student will start by picking a card and describing it to the group, and then state in which category he/she wants to place the card, justifying the reason.
- The other students agree or disagree. If they agree, the next student picks a different card and repeats the process. If they disagree, they state why and suggest a different placement. Partners discuss and reach a consensus before continuing.
- You will decide on labels for your categories.
- Be prepared to share your categories with the class.

Advanced Studies

Advanced Studies in Action!

The October issue of *Advanced Studies in Action* is now live! Check it out here:

<https://secure.smcore.com/n/q2mz6v>

NCAGT Awards Deadline- December 15th

Each year, the North Carolina Association for the Gifted and Talented recognizes outstanding contributions in the field of gifted education. Annual Awards and Scholarships will be presented at the NCAGT Annual Conference, March 12-14, 2025 in Concord, North Carolina. Contact the Awards Committee at awards@ncagt.org should you have any questions about the applications or submission process.

[All nominations and applications](#) are due by midnight on December 15, 2024.

Elementary School

TEACHER TIDBITS

Remember that Tidbits are available each week via email and you can also find the weekly teacher Tidbits on each grade-level curriculum resource page.

- [Kindergarten](#)
- [1st Grade](#)
- [2nd Grade](#)
- [3rd Grade](#)
- [4th Grade](#)
- [5th Grade](#)

If you are currently not receiving Tidbits or would like to sign up for additional grade levels, please fill out [this form](#).

MATH

This year DreamBox is offering Pop in PD. To learn more and to sign up for the 15 minute

personalized PD opportunities, [check here](#).

ELA

Poetry Out Loud 2024-2025 Registration Open

Registration for [Poetry Out Loud 2024-2025](#) is now open! Poetry Out Loud is a national arts education program encouraging students to engage deeply with poetry, fostering public speaking skills, self-confidence, and a love for literary expression.

3 - 5 ALL Block Planners

Are you ready to use data to drive your ALL Block groupings? Please see the [ALL Block Planners](#) on your All Things Literacy grade-level page. Videos on how to use the tool are included on page 2 of the planners.

SOCIAL STUDIES

November is Native American Heritage Month and is a great opportunity to learn about the hundreds of tribes across the nation and the eight recognized tribes in North Carolina: Eastern Band of Cherokee, Coharie, Lumbee, Haliwa-Saponi, Sappony, Meherrin, Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation and Waccamaw-Siouan. As part of our district's celebration of this special month, please look for ways to incorporate [these resources](#) into multiple aspects of the curriculum throughout the school year to teach all of our students that they come from rich legacies of inventors, scientists, and pioneers and welcome who they are to foster what they can become.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Our next scheduled K-12 World Languages Department Chair meetings will be on Thursday, December 5. This will be our 3rd of six World Languages Department Chair meetings for the 24-25 school year. Meetings will be held on Teams at 3pm and 4:30pm to ensure all Chairs have an opportunity to engage. Microsoft Teams links, slide decks and dates are posted [HERE](#).

Reminders:

All World Language curriculum resources may be found on our internal CMS website [HERE](#). Please contact mara.cobe@cms.k12.nc.us if you have any questions.

All K-12 World Language teachers (not K-5 DLI) had live, synchronous PD on Thursday, August 21st. Make sure to visit the [K-12 World Language Canvas course link](#) for session recordings and for **details about our four early release PD sessions**.

There will be new [NCDPI World Language Standards](#) starting August 2025. We will have **required** PD for K-12 World Language teachers on all four early release days this year to help prepare for implementation of the new standards.

MATH

October 30 PD Reminder: Thank you for sharing ideas and learning about planning the "Explore" parts of our activities in the Early Release Day PD module in Canvas! *If you have not yet completed the module, please complete it ASAP* - you can find it in the Math Hive Canvas Course.

Math 8 Honors Supplemental Lessons: This year we are offering Math 8 Honors courses in many schools! The *Math 8 Honors course offers supplemental lessons* that help bridge to Math 1 standards. The first of these lessons occurs in the second half of Unit 3 - to access them, see the Unit Support Documents in the [CMS Open Up Links](#) or the [Math 8 Canvas Sandbox](#).

Math 7 Honors ".5 Units": Based on your feedback, and an opportunity to offer a pathway for students to move from Math 6 to Math 7 Honors if they show readiness, we included the ".5 units" in the 7th grade Honors curriculum to re-engage some 7th grade standards. If your students' data shows that they would benefit from these units, *please do not spend more than a week on each* - they are prerequisite to the 7th Honors course standards and will set back your pacing if you spend too long! See the Unit Support Documents for suggested pacing for these units.

ELA

We hope you had a successful first quarter of teaching and instruction. Most of you are starting or

Middle
School

have recently started Module 2. As a reminder, should you need additional workbooks, see your school assigned Hayes System representative. Also, now is a good time to review the suggested planning timeline found in the Middle School ELA Library in Canvas.

Response to Benchmark documents have been completed. Use these to support your planning and instruction in response to recent benchmark data.

See below for the documents. We wish you a successful second quarter!

[6th Grade - Response to Benchmark 1](#)

[7th Grade - Response to Benchmark 1](#)

[8th Grade - Response to Benchmark 1](#)

SOCIAL STUDIES

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SCIENCE

For science shout-outs, PD opportunities, and curriculum updates, check out the [Weekly Spotlight on Science Newsletter](#).

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MATH

Benchmark Data: M1FS benchmark data is now accessible. Please utilize this information to strategize for small group instruction aimed at re-engaging with the standards.

Math 1-3 Correction Feedback: Have you discovered any Math 1-3 errors in Canvas, Assessments, or Workbooks? If so, please complete the "Correction" document found in the Canvas Course under Teacher Resources. Our team of specialists is reviewing these errors and will make necessary adjustments where needed.

ENGLISH

MVPA Re-engagement:

- We encourage Semester and Year-long English II classes to continue to use our [Response to Benchmark #1 Resource](#) to support data conversations and opportunities for

**High
School**

re-engagement. This document provides a student data tracker that addresses both the MVPA #1 and the midterm.

- E/MC teachers are currently at the end of the MVPA #2 testing window. To support your ongoing data conversations as we lead up to the EOC, use the [Response to Benchmark #2 Resource](#) to continue to see where the standards re-occur within the curriculum and its supplemental resources.

As a reminder, SpringBoard offers a [grade-level standard correlation document](#) to support planning and re-engagement for all grade levels.

Reminders:

- **Final Days for Oct. 30th PD Submissions:** The window to complete October 30th PD will be from **October 25th to November 19th**. Please visit our [9-12 ELA Support Course](#) for details and submission requirements by the deadline so we can award you credit.
- **ZINC Office Hour:** The next ZINC facilitated Office hour will be held **Nov. 20 at 3:30 PM**. Use this [registration link](#) to sign up. *(TIP: Even if you cannot attend, register for the session. Recordings will be shared with all registered persons.)*
- **Free Tutoring and Paper Editing:** Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library offers a variety of free academic supports for students. Below are a few links for your review, and don't forget to share this valuable tool with your families.
 - [ONE Access for All! Toolkit 2024-2025 Update](#)
 - [General Tutor.com Instructions](#)
 - [Charlotte Mecklenburg Tutor.com Start-up Video](#)

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SCIENCE

Read this week's [HS Science Newsletter](#) to gain more information on instructional support and resources.

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Semester 1 STAMP Testing:

All Level I and II courses (including parts A/B) and SNS I and II courses (including parts A/B) will take the STAMP assessments as required district final exams this year. STAMP Test Administrator training for Semester 1 courses is now open. [Click here to join!](#)

If you are administering the STAMP test for your Semester 1 courses, you must complete this STAMP Test Administrator training before the testing window opens on December 2nd for ASL, Latin and the Listening/Speaking portions for all other courses.

Reminders:

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Arts & Digital Innovation	
Recruitment & Retention	
Other	

[All Previous Direct to Teacher Communications](#)