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TO: Board of Education  
FROM: Dale Ellis  
DATE: July 11, 2012  
SUBJ: INFORMATION ITEM (Curriculum Review Week)

MCS hosted its second annual curriculum review week from June 25-June 27, 2012. It was a great success. During the week, 74 teachers worked together to develop instructional guides for all core academic areas. These guides will guide the work of teachers in the coming year, and serve as the foundation of our work with PLC's next year. An added component in our ongoing development in using continuous improvement for next year will be the use of the classroom PDSA, as we have discussed extensively this year. Given the growth that we have seen, we expect to continue growing proficiency at a consistent pace.

The week will conclude with another session on August 8 and 9. The focus of those two days will be developing rigorous online predictive and common formative assessments to accompany the guides. These assessments will help teachers identify student performance gaps and close those gaps via adjustment to instruction in the PDSA on an ongoing basis.

I am personally pleased with the growth we have seen from last summer to this summer as well. It is clear that our teachers are becoming increasingly confident in the accountability expectations facing them and they continue to develop at an impressive rate in using data to drive instructional planning and decision-making. We are truly blessed with an outstanding group of educators!

The curriculum staff and I are available to answer any questions you might have regarding this most important work.