

To: Marlington Board of Education
From: Mrs. Anna Minor, Assistant Superintendent
Re: Curriculum and RttT Updates
Date: March 27, 2014

1. The high school has selected April 30, 2014 for our first Advanced Placement (AP) and Honors parent and student night. We will target current incoming freshman, sophomore, and junior students. The evening will begin with an informational meeting in the auditorium highlighting the expectations of the classes and then guests will have the opportunity to peruse AP and Honors "stations" in the cafeteria. Our current seniors in these classes will assist in the presentations, answering student questions and preparing the information.
2. Mrs. Quintus has a contact in the arts advocacy film business that contacted her regarding an upcoming project. In the project, business people, corporations, and others will speak on the importance of the visual arts. Examples of student artwork will be shown as well as "over-the-shoulder" shots of students creating artwork. The purpose of the project is to share the film with the Alliance for Art Education so Ohio legislators will give additional financial support to the arts. Additionally, the film will be featured on the OAEA (Ohio Art Education Association) and NAEA National Art Education Association) websites. At the end of March, he will present the film at the NAEA conference in San Diego. Mrs. Quintus sent in photos of students creating artwork and final masterpieces. We are waiting to hear if our students will be included in the film.
3. The middle school's focus for the 2014-15 school year is student engagement. As part of the process, the seventh grade staff will be doing a book study focusing on Blended Learning in Grades 4-12 by Catlin R. Tucker. This is a teacher initiated and led adventure. We are all looking forward to collecting resources to fill our "blended learning toolbox" so that the student engagement initiative is successful.
4. The district technology team, consisting of teachers, administrators and technology staff are in the middle of planning our district wide June technology day. Using Google Docs, we surveyed teachers to determine their highest needs and are building the professional development in-service based on these needs. Fellow teachers, technology staff and administers will lead the sessions. We will evaluate staff after each session to determine the effectiveness of the day.