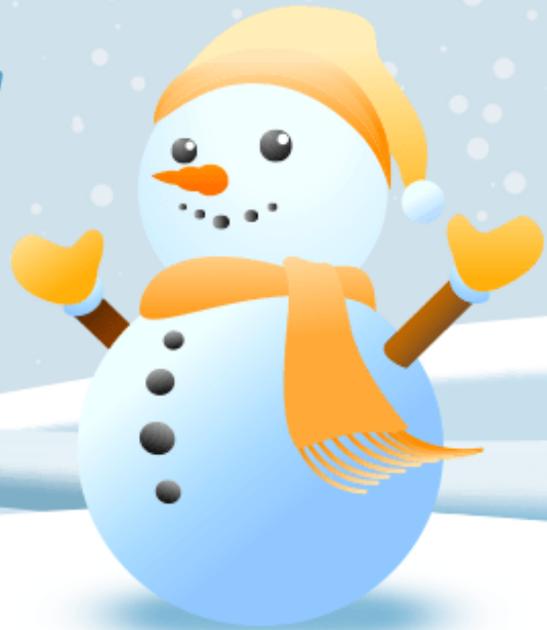


Season's Greetings!



Colleagues,

After the AR meeting last night, I said I would get something out to the membership around the topics that were brought forward.

OEA contacted the district on the issue around the pacing guides for 3rd quarter.

In talking with CIS, we have not published any changes to 3rd quarter pacing guides because we were still making changes based on teacher concerns and feedback as we work to support teachers. We will be publishing these changes today. My understanding is that these changes are in direct response to teachers concerns of pacing moving too fast and are not significant changes (Note: in the K-5 ELA – HMH there are no Foundational Skills being skipped).

How can we give adequate time to complete grading, lesson plans and preparation for remote teaching?

On Jan 4 teachers are guaranteed a half day for planning and preparation. Currently the district has planned a 90 HMH session for elementary teachers. Otherwise the rest of the half day is for building based PD. I am not aware of what principals have planned. Our principals do need some time to provide building level planning and professional development but the need and plan for this will vary school by school.

We did publish today an extension of the secondary grading window by 1 day (grades due Jan 5 by 3:30 pm) as requested by OEA. This should be a help.

Teachers will also have another nonstudent day on January 15. This day will be approximately ½ professional learning and approximately 1/2 will be provided for teachers as well (as have been the previous added this day this year). This day (after 8 instructional days) should be a huge benefit to teachers as they prepare for 2nd semester.

Why are teachers asked to skip over ELA modules, that have foundational material that students need?

In conversation with CIS, different modules at each grade level in elementary ELA were selected to be removed from pacing guides for 2nd semester based on input from teachers. After careful review of grade level standards, the modules removed were selected in an effort to adjust pacing in support of teachers.

We will have a follow up with HR tomorrow. We have received additional questions around modules, preparation and planning today that has caused some frustration as you all have been planning well in advance and the recent shared document has not helped.

Stay tuned,

Robert

