



Dear Pontiac Academy for Excellence Staff,

Welcome to a new and exciting school year. A new school year presents opportunities for new beginnings, new classes, new faces and new strategies. Newness alone cannot produce transformation. We must be willing to build on past practices and embrace new strategies that come with the new school year.

The contents of your curriculum binder encompasses the components of our **Curriculum Management Plan (CMP)** also known as the **Educational Plan Review (EPR)**. Our plan is based on the belief that all students are capable of learning at high levels. It honors the belief that students learn in different ways and timeframes. Thus, while the curriculum holds high expectations for all students, it is understood that mastery of content will require a variety of teaching strategies and learning experiences. Weekly lessons include specific instructional strategies and assessments to ensure that students gain a deeper understanding of the "big ideas" and obtain mastery. Instruction then becomes the vehicle for students to accomplish the weekly outcomes and apply the acquired knowledge in response to the essential questions. Assignments and activities for enrichment and remediation are gathered from various resources aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Data from our pre/post test will determine student needs and support the development of customized engaging and rigorous lessons and activities leading to student mastery and proficiency on standardized test.

In essence, it is the Curriculum Management Plan or Educational Plan which provides the structure to ensure quality control of the curriculum and instructional process. Instead of leaving the primary function of a school to chance, a comprehensive Curriculum Management Plan or Educational Plan recognizes that student learning is a result of a well-planned series of events.

Thus board policies, guidelines, and procedures are developed to create the expectation and the context for developing well-articulated curriculum documents that contain aligned assessments. Ultimately, the Curriculum Management / Educational Plan conveys the intent of the leadership and guides the development, scope, alignment and evaluation of the written curriculum in all subject areas. It also ensures quality control of the designed and delivered curriculum.

You are amazing and we believe you are the right person to make a profound impact on the lives of the students we serve.

Have an amazing school year!

Pamela Williams

Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment