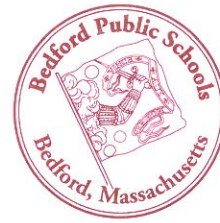


BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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June 11, 2014

Dear Teachers, Parents, Guardians and Community Members:

As you know, the state of Massachusetts has for many years published the Massachusetts State Frameworks designed to provide public schools with a grade-by-grade description of the basis for district-level curriculum development and statewide testing. Recently, these frameworks in Math and English Language Arts have been updated to reflect the Common Core, a new set of learning standards developed by a consortium of states supported by the National Governors' Association and Council of Chief State School Officers. As of today, the Common Core has been adopted by 45 states.

While the state and national entities have continued to develop a 'common' understanding of what children need to know and be able to do to compete in a global society, over the past several years, the Bedford Public Schools has been working to help teachers gain a deeper understanding of the K-12 continuum, to develop common formative assessments and to deepen learning by encouraging students to think deeply about their learning.

This year, we are publishing the Bedford Public Schools Learning Expectations in Math, English, Science and Social Studies K-5 with the understanding that they will be revised and refined in the coming year. Next fall, we will add grades 6, 7 and 8 and, over the next several years, we will add hyperlinks from the appropriate expectations to exemplars of student work that represent a degree of accomplishment that meets the stated standard. We hope that the publication of the Bedford Learning Expectations will encourage conversations at home with your children and at school with your child's teacher.

I would like to end by thanking all the Bedford teachers and administrators who have committed so much time and expertise to writing and producing these Learning Expectations. Their commitment to children and to teaching and learning is unmatched.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Sills".

Jon Sills
Superintendent of Schools