

What does the Program of Studies say students should be able to know and do?

The “What” of Curriculum

- Identifying essential outcomes.
- Improving our practices related to instruction, assessment and reporting.
- Creating a common language for teacher teams, students, and parents.

The “Why” of Essential Outcomes

- To better understand student strengths and areas for growth.
- **Communication** to parents and students will be **focused and relevant to the learning outcomes.**
- To maintain alignment between outcomes - instruction - assessment - interventions.

“Deciding what is essential for students to learn must be the starting point for curriculum planning.”

(Talk About Assessment, Cooper, 2010)

Curricular Focus

1. What does the Front Matter say?
2. Do you have a clear vision of what the students should be able to know and do from the Front Matter?
3. Create a statement

Process:

As you read through the Front Matter - highlight key words or phrases that you think is important to the vision of the front matter

Be sure to note any patterns or repeating themes that arise from the reading - How do these patterns or themes have a place within the organization of your outcomes?

Process:

1. Have the teachers put themselves in a group that focused on the same subject for reading the front matter...
2. provide 5 minutes for them to discuss what they read, key points that they feel captures the essence of the Program of Studies (this helps to keep the vision and purpose when creating and building essential outcomes)
3. Share with the whole group each subject
4. The whole group takes time to reflect on:
 - a. One thing that stands out to you in the essence statement
 - b. One thing it makes you wonder about...
 - c. After hearing the summary of key ideas of the front matter, how are these statements different than what you may have assumed the curriculum to focus on?

