

# Curriculum/Policy Committee

October 9, 2025

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# Agenda

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- ELA Curriculum Grades 6-8
- Benchmark year 2 Implementation K-5
- Science Programming at MES
- Enrichment/Tech Integration Update



## Our Mission

It is the **Mission** of the Mansfield Public Schools, in partnership with the Mansfield community, to ensure that each and every child develops the knowledge, skills, and dispositions essential for civic engagement and personal excellence in learning, life, and work within our local and global community.



## Core Beliefs



Lead with **EQUITY**.



Develop the whole **CHILD**.



Ensure **ACTIVE** learning.



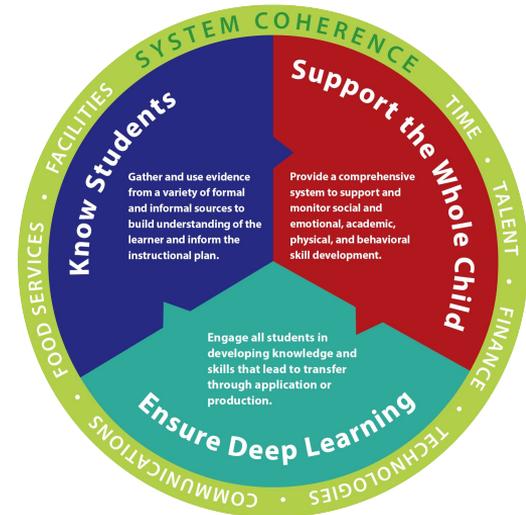
Build **PARTNERSHIPS**.

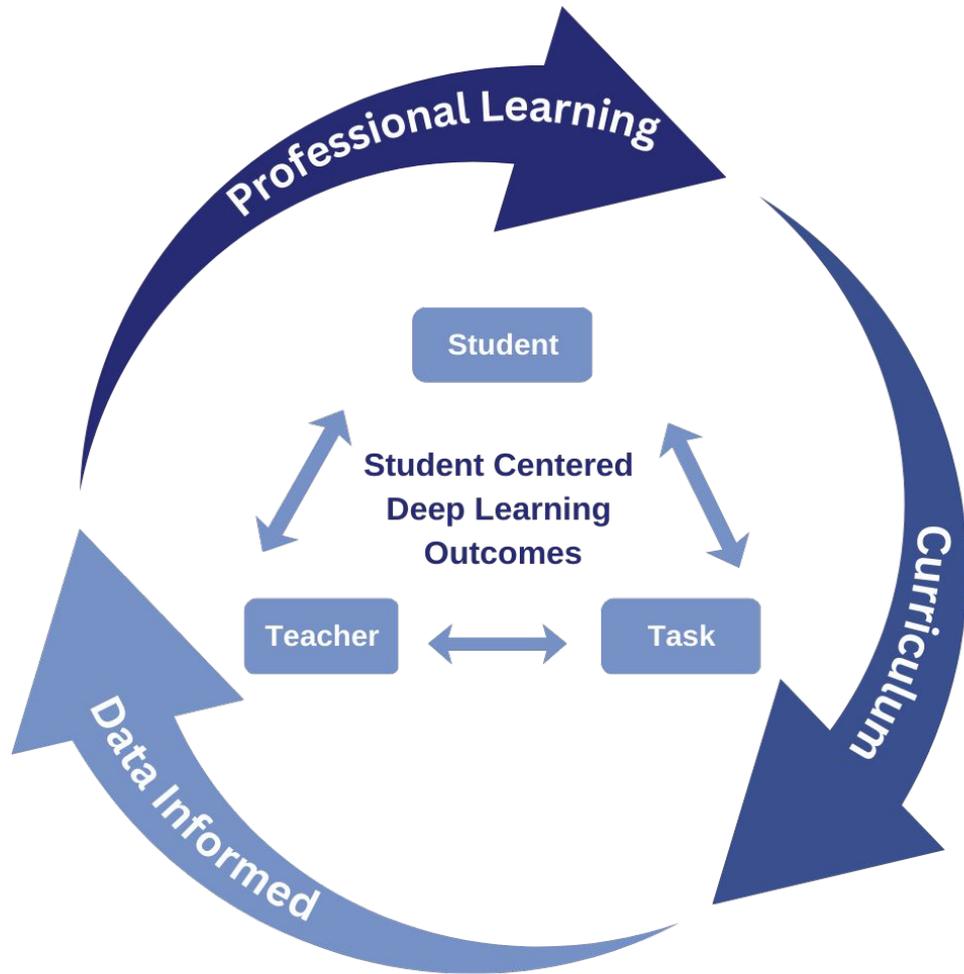


Prepare **GLOBAL** citizens.



Grow **EDUCATORS**.





# ELA Curriculum Grades 6-8



## Education

- Nationally recognized non-profit whose curriculum is built upon the tenets on character, mastery of knowledge and skill, and high quality student work
- Modules: 3 units- building background knowledge, writing for a purpose, application of writing (research component)
- Built around engaging, rigorous text and essential questions (i.e. What can we learn from those who have survived the greatest tragedies and become even more determined to help others? How can we share these kinds of stories to inspire and educate? )
- Opportunities to enrich (performance tasks and connections to experts, fieldwork, service, and extensions)
- Celebrations to date: vertical alignment, links being made to larger school initiatives (i.e. habits of character), total participation techniques and engagement





## Year 2 Program Update

### Milestones Achieved:

- Reading Implementation across grades K-5
- Improved skills across grades: stamina, access to rigorous texts, vocabulary, close reading
- Teacher development: differentiation, scaffolding, UDL practices to support all learners

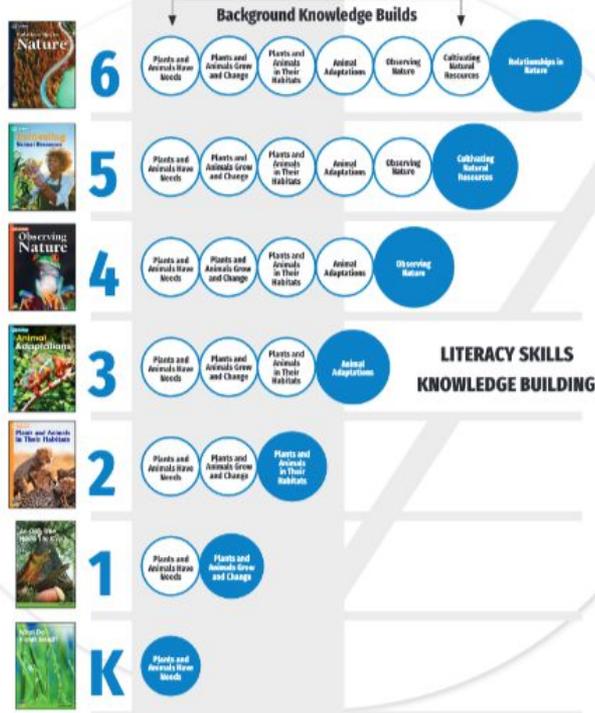
### Ongoing support provided:

- 25-26 Focus Areas: Writing and Small group instruction
- Team collaboration weekly
- District professional development days
- Release time as needed



# Growing Skills and Knowledge

## Unit 1 LIFE SCIENCE GRADE BY GRADE, KNOWLEDGE GROWS



- Vertically aligned units support knowledge building over time
- Creates opportunities for cross grade level partnerships
- Embeds science and social studies topics
- Rich text sets that support and engage all learners
- Currently aligning units to NGSS and Social Studies standards to allow for cross curricular connections

# Science Curriculum Update Grades K-5

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- Early actions focused on embedding science into year long thematic studies
- Integrate science extensions K-2
- 2025-26 adding two additional science units grades 3-4
- 2026-27 add two additional units
- NGSS Institute Grade 5



# Science Curriculum Core Resource

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- Open SciEd
- Phenomena-Centered & Student-Driven Learning
- Standards-Aligned & Research-Based
- Inclusive & Supportive of Diverse Learners
- Open Sourced (Free) & Adaptable



# Enrichment/Tech Integration Update

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- 6th Grade SeaPerch Program
- Virtual Reality in Science
- MMS Lego Robotics League
- Chromebook Launch Grade 2/ iPads Grade 1



## Portrait of the Learner

The Mansfield Public School student develops a love of learning rooted in a strong academic foundation. Students grow within a safe and respectful environment while contributing to the local and global community. This educational journey encourages risk taking, builds perseverance and resiliency, and celebrates individual growth. Skills and dispositions across five elements—the 5 C's—interact with each other and with content standards to support the development of a learner prepared to face future learning and career challenges.



# Launch of SeaPerch

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We are partnering with the UConn Navy Stem Program. Students are building a SeaPerch robot, an underwater robot. They are learning important life skills such as measuring, drilling, and wiring.



Students started by measuring and cutting PVC Pipe to build their robot frame.

# Virtual Reality in Science

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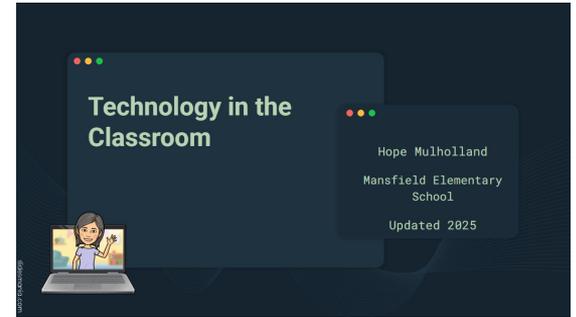
We have pushed into all 7th and 8th Grade Science Classes using virtual reality as a way to provide students with prior knowledge as they start new units.



# Meet with Grade Level Teams at MES

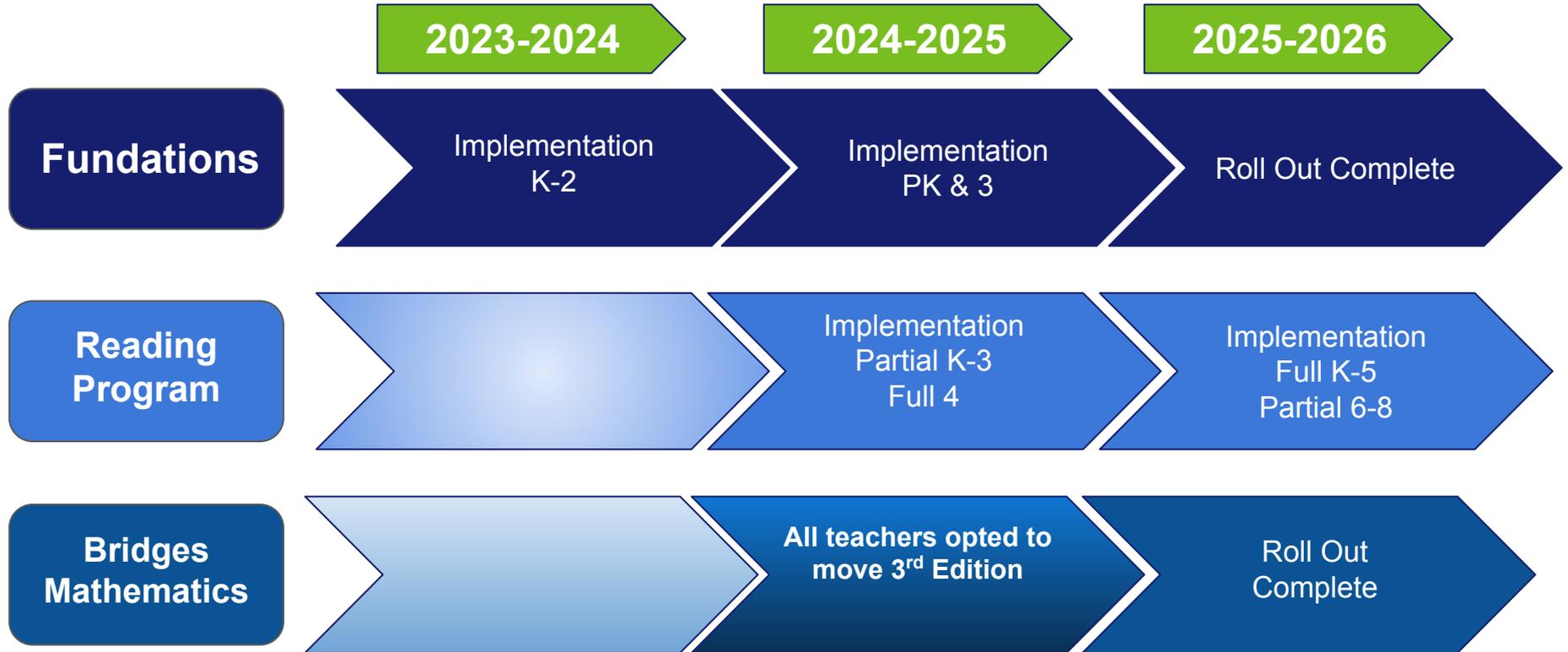
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We met with all the Grade level teams at MES to go over key highlights of managing technology in the classroom including the alignment of PAWS expectations, key updates from the summer, and highlighted websites and apps.



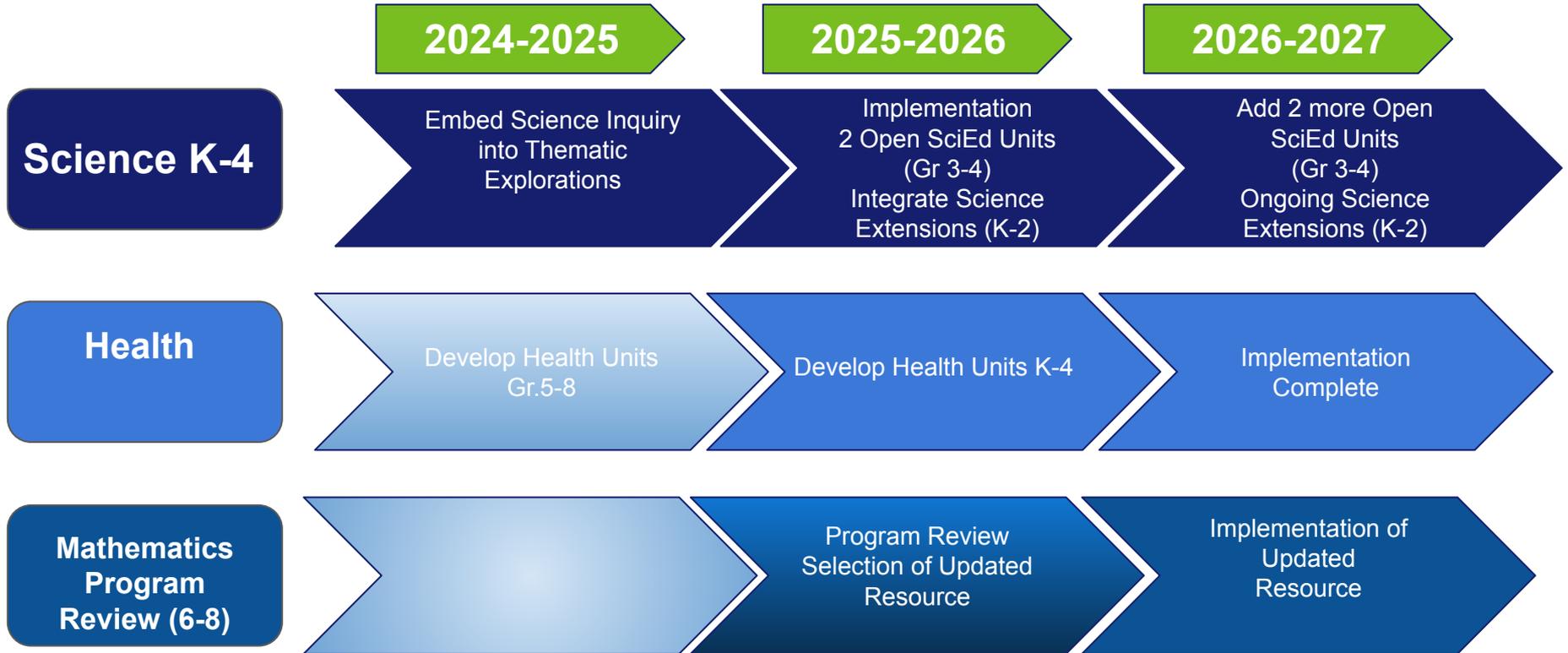


# Mansfield Public Schools Program Implementation Plan





# Mansfield Public Schools Curriculum Implementation Plan



# On the Horizon

**MPS 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SCIENCE CURRICULUM STORYBOARD**  
Designed by Hope Mulholand 2025

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
<b>Geology</b>	<b>Natural Resources</b>	<b>Space &amp; Robotics</b>
<p>How do we know what happened on Earth a long time ago? How are different landforms created? How do we predict and prepare for natural disasters?</p>	<p>Why do some people in the world have more access to freshwater than others? Why is it important to keep our water clean?</p>	<p>What are the unique characteristics of Mars compared to Earth and other planets? How do robots help us explore and study Mars?</p>
		
<p>We will embark on a scientific exploration of Earth's dynamic systems. Students will investigate the processes that have shaped our planet over billions of years, from the formation of geological features to the forces that drive natural hazards.</p> <p>Through data analysis, model development, and problem-solving, we will seek to answer fundamental questions about Earth's history and its ongoing evolution.</p>	<p>We will be exploring the world around us to understand what natural resources are, where they come from, and why they're so important. We'll be thinking about how we use these resources every day and how we can make smart choices to protect them for the future.</p> <p>We'll also be working on some important skills, like investigating problems, using information from different places, and sharing our ideas in different ways.</p>	<p>We will investigate Mars' potential similarities to Earth, the possibility of past or present life, and what it can reveal about our own planet.</p> <p>Due to the challenges of human travel to Mars, we rely on robotic explorers. During this unit, we will also explore robotics and coding so we can discover how scientists use this technology for exploration.</p>
<p>Transfer Goals: Seek to solve real-world problems by designing, testing, and evaluating solutions. Use information from multiple sources to develop arguments, justify conclusions, and make logical informed decisions. Communicate results, solutions, and understandings through multiple formats.</p>		