

Where can I go for more Information?

As a parent, it is important that you have quality resources to keep you informed.

- First and foremost, use your school. The teachers and administrators in your school are always your best source of information.
- Feel free to contact the FCSD Office of Curriculum and Instruction at any time. Contact information is at the end of this brochure.
- Use the web. There is a wealth of information available for parents at the sites listed below.

- ◇ <http://education.ohio.gov/>
- ◇ <http://www.corestandards.org/>
- ◇ <http://www.parconline.org/about-parcc>
- ◇ <http://pta.org/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2796>



FCSD Office of Curriculum and Instruction

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Fairfield City School District

*Excellence,
Preparation for Life,
Opportunities for All*

**Higher Expectations
for
Ohio's Students**

What's changing in 2014-2015, next school year?

The 2014-2015 school year will look very different than others. Next school year, students will take online state assessments over Ohio's New Learning Standards. These new standards expect all students to think and respond at high cognitive levels. Students will need to be able to read, write, and calculate while effectively using technology and communication skills. Ohio's New Learning Standards are the most rigorous that we have seen to date, and educators in Ohio are excited, nervous, and hopeful about the implementation of these new standards.

Why is the state making these changes?

Ohio, along with the many other states, has adopted New Learning Standards to meet the growing demands of the global marketplace. American students need to be able to compete with students from around the world, and, here in Fairfield, we want to ensure that our students are among the most prepared.



How is Fairfield preparing?

Fairfield teachers, administrators, and support staff have already been working for two years to prepare for the 2014-2015 school year and beyond. We have been examining Ohio's New Learning Standards to make them a part of our daily instruction. We have been creating assessments to mirror the rigor of the new state assessments. We have been learning new ways to instruct and assess students utilizing technology. And, we have put more technology into our buildings throughout the district. Our entire district is committed to making sure that all of our students are successful both now and in the future.



How will things be different for my student during this school year?

In preparation for 2014-2015, many things have changed in our classrooms and in our buildings. One of the most notable changes is in the area of technology. Using both federal grant money and district funds, we have increased the number of computers available for instructional use. New computer labs will be found throughout the district, and students will be using these new labs in a variety of ways.

Students in grades K-8 will use the new labs to take an assessment called MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) to help get them ready for the online assessments and to measure their academic growth. Students in grades 9-11 will take the Explore, PLAN, and ACT series to help them prepare for the higher level rigor expected of all high school students. These assessments will help parents and educators know your child better and be more prepared to meet his/her unique needs.

Daily instruction and homework will also be changing over the course of time. Items that were once covered in middle school may now be introduced earlier in a child's education, and students will be asked to complete more complex tasks than in the past. Instructional methods that utilize technology will start to become more and more common in our classrooms.

FCSD is working to ensure that all of our students meet Ohio's higher expectations.



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