



MEQUON-THIENSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

On-line Curriculum Information

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the *Build Your Own Curriculum (BYOC)*?

Build Your Own Curriculum is a curriculum information system that provides immediate access to the district's K-12 curriculum. As a web based tool, this means all internal and external users can view the curriculum available to students to better understand the expectations for learning.

2. What does the curriculum information system do?

BYOC replaces paper curriculum documents. BYOC was developed by a Wisconsin school district and a software provider based upon the belief that curriculum must be a living tool for learning not to be created or revised every seven years and then placed upon a shelf. BYOC also expects curriculum to be standards-based. BYOC serves and builds a collaborative culture to focus teachers beyond their own classrooms to share best practices with others.

3. How do I access information on BYOC?

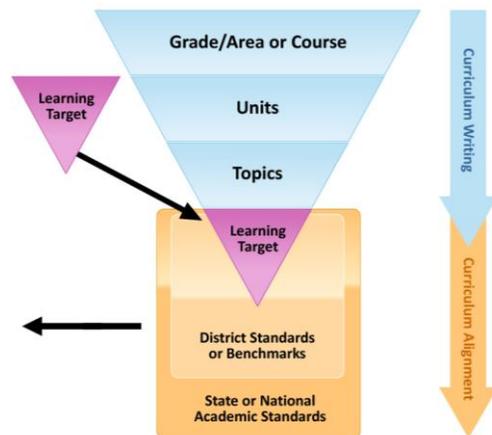
BYOC can be accessed using the MTSD website or following the link below. The website is easy to search using the tool found at the center of the page. Further detailed information can be found by "drilling down" on the links to units, topics, etc.

http://mtsd.buildyourowncurriculum.com/public/Course_Search.aspx

4. What can I view using BYOC?

Every course in the school district is available on BYOC. A description of the course and the units for each course are included.

As the district continues to maximize the power of BYOC, further information such as learning targets will be identified in all courses. In addition, as existing curriculum is revised, alignment to the Common Core Standards and other state and national standards will be completed.



Source <http://admin.buildyourowncurriculum.com/Admin/TrainingDocs.aspx>

5. Who is responsible for the development and implementation of curriculum?

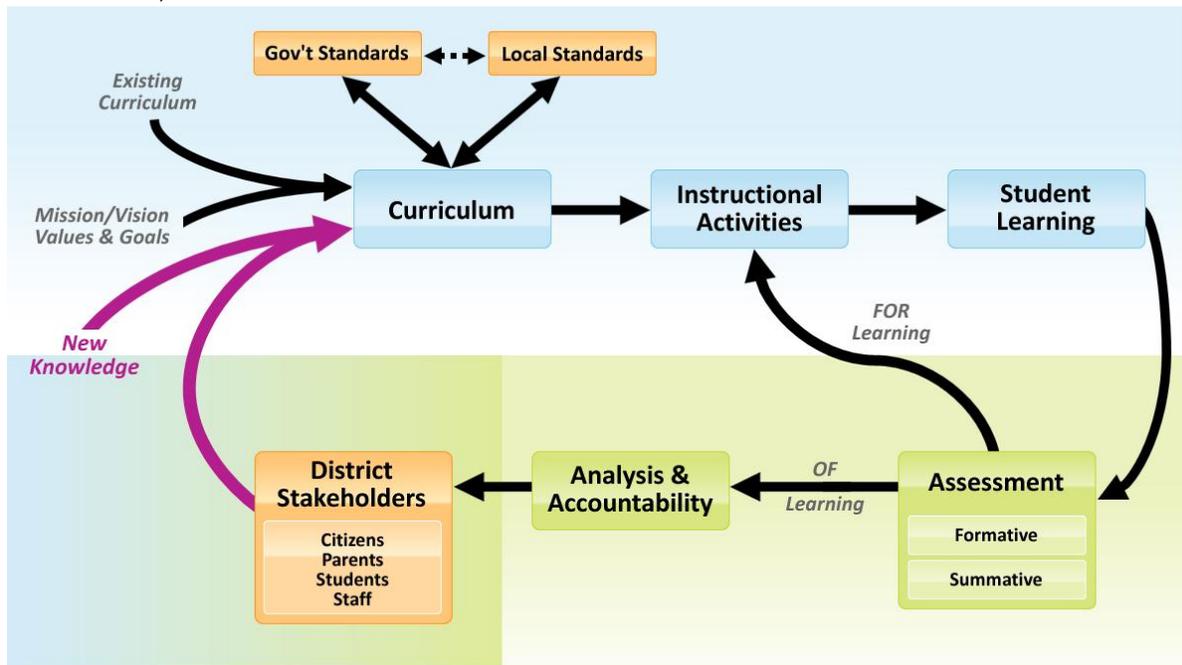
Curriculum writing teams of teachers led by curriculum specialists and the Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment are responsible for the development of curriculum. Principals and district level administrators use BYOC to monitor the implementation of expected curriculum in classroom observations and when working with teacher teams collaborating on instruction.

6. Why is an online curriculum like BYOC important?

Curriculum must be easily developed, easily accessible, and up-to-date. BYOC is a user friendly tool for curriculum writing purposes and easy website for parents and community members to use also. BYOC makes certain that the information being viewed is both the most recent written and enacted curriculum. Curriculum must be of value to all audiences (students, parents/community, teachers, administrators, & school board) to enhance classroom instruction, improve student learning, and serve as the catalyst for addressing the needs of all students.

7. How and when is curriculum developed in MTSD?

Curriculum has always been developed using the district mission, vision, values, and goals. The visual below illustrates the process used for development of K-12 curriculum including the role of standards and assessment. MTSD is on a seven year curriculum cycle for review of the 12 content areas in the district (see Seven Year Cycle available on the district website).



Source <http://admin.buildyourowncurriculum.com/Admin/TrainingDocs.aspx>

8. When will BYOC be “complete”?

BYOC work will never be “completed” since curriculum is a living element in all successful school districts. The current information on BYOC has been completed in less than three years while still honoring the district’s seven year curriculum revision cycle. Therefore, some courses have more details than others. Over the next few years, viewers of BYOC on the MTSD public site can expect greater depth to the curriculum available, as both revisions take place and former information on paper documents transition to BYOC fully.

9. How is BYOC used by teachers, administrators, students, and parents?

Teachers use BYOC to plan what is taught. BYOC assists teachers in knowing the depth and breadth of instruction. The content, pacing, learning targets, and topics provide teachers the information they need to provide instruction that is similar in all classrooms in the district. Principals and other administrators use BYOC in observations and conferencing with teachers as part of their supervision responsibilities. Students and parents use BYOC to also understand course expectations and in making decisions regarding future course choices.

10. What my child is currently learning appears different than the time frame available on BYOC?

As best practice, teachers may need to adjust the pacing of curriculum to meet the needs of the students in the classroom. The content and learning targets are still expected to be met so all students achieve and are prepared for the next course or grade level. If a parent has a question about content or pacing after viewing curriculum in BYOC, they should contact the classroom teacher. Teachers monitor the written and the taught curriculum, and if the information in BYOC does not reflect instruction, a curriculum team will make the appropriate revisions.