

SLM 506 Module 1 Assignment

School Analysis and Curriculum Chart



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Westside Intermediate School Analysis

Community

Westside Intermediate School is in the small rural town of Hebron, Maryland in Wicomico County. In the early 1920s, Hebron was a thriving town. The Chesapeake and Atlantic Railroad ran through the town. Not only was there a lumber manufacturing plant, five shirt factories, a flour mill, and a canning operation, but also a vibrant farming community, including poultry, dairy, and food crops. Today, however, while there is still a small lumber operation and farms, there are no longer any large businesses that employ its residents. The poverty rate in Hebron is about seventeen percent. Most people from this town commute about twenty-six miles per day to work in either Salisbury, MD or Cambridge, MD.

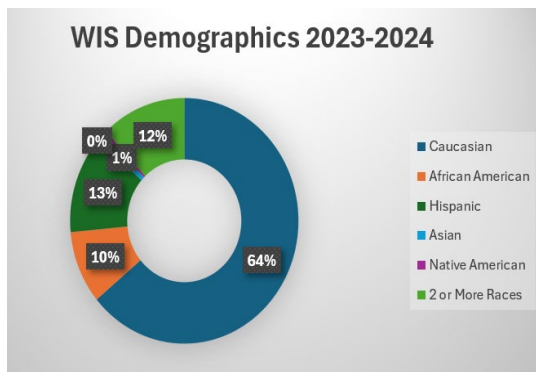
Since the 1920s, the population has remained the same at about 1,100 people. According the 2020 US census, the town is 75% Caucasian, 15% African American, 8% Hispanic, and 2% are two or more races. English was the language spoken in each of the homes at the time the census was completed.

School

Westside has an enrollment of 341 students. Our staff is made up of 17 classroom teachers, 5 special area teachers (ELL, music, art, physical education, and media specialist), 3 special education teachers, 1 reading intervention teacher, 9 instructional assistants, and two administrators. We also have a guidance counselor, a social worker, and a part time student advisor.

Westside Intermediate is a 4-star rated school in Maryland. On the 2023 MCAP assessment for ELA, 52% of our students were proficient. In math, 50% of our students were proficient based on the 2023 MCAP assessment. The Maryland State Department of Education highlighted our school because we demonstrated a 10% proficiency increase from SY 2021 - 2022 to SY 2022-2023 on MCAP in mathematics. Our ELL students did not show improvement in ELA or math. There were significant discrepancies among subgroups. Our African American students, ELL students, and special education students did not perform as well as our Caucasian students. As part of our School Improvement Plan, we have implemented strategies to help close the achievement gap.

Our school community comes from not only the town of Hebron, but also includes students from smaller surrounding towns including Delmar, Mardela, Bivalve, Nanticoke, and Tyaskin. This influences our school demographics in comparison to the town of Hebron. At WIS, 46% of the students are FARMS, 10% receive special education services, and 5% of our students are ELL.



Since 2020, there has been a shift in the demographics of the school. The African American population has decreased from 18% to 10% while the Hispanic population has grown from 7% to 13%. The Caucasian, Asian, and Native American population has stayed about the same. Other important subgroups at Westside Intermediate include:

- 46% of students qualify for FARMS
- 10% of students receive special education services
- 5% of students are English Language Learners

Library

Wicomico County Public Schools support the libraries in our district. The budget at Westside Intermediate for books was \$4300 for the 2023-2024 school year which was about \$12.50 per student. The library circulates around 120 books each day. The chart shows the most checked out books in the easy, fiction, nonfiction, and graphic novel sections of the library.

| Classification | Average Age | Items | Percent of Collection | Circulations to Date |
|---------------------|-------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Computer Science | 2004 | 21 | .24 | 5 |
| Philosophy | 2000 | 14 | .16 | 1 |
| Religion | 1995 | 4 | .05 | 1 |
| Social Sciences | 1999 | 454 | 5.27 | 151 |
| Language | 2002 | 26 | .30 | 0 |
| Science | 2004 | 1178 | 13.67 | 944 |
| Technology | 2002 | 445 | 5.16 | 176 |
| Arts & Recreation | 2008 | 692 | 8.48 | 1983 |
| Literature | 1998 | 84 | .97 | 20 |
| History & Geography | 2000 | 897 | 10.41 | 231 |
| Biography | 2005 | 432 | 5 | 59 |
| Nonfiction | 2003 | 4287 | 49 | 3571 |
| Graphic Novels | 2016 | 366 | 4.25 | 1720 |
| Fiction | 2007 | 3001 | 50 | 3723 |
| Easy Fiction | 2001 | 1331 | 15.44 | 933 |
| | 2004 | 8619 | NA | 8230 |

| Most Checked Out Books (series/topics/titles) | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Easy | Fiction | Graphic Novels | Nonfiction |
| The Creepy Crayon | Diary of a Wimpy Kid | Dogman | Who Would Win? |
| The Day the Crayon Quit | Dork Diaries | Catkid | natural disasters |
| Barbie | Wish Upon a Star | Bad Guys | horses |
| Pigeon | Crenshaw | I Survived | dogs |
| Pete the Cat | Shiloh | Amulet | Titanic |
| Biscuit | I Survived | Brina the Cat | football |
| Miss Nelson is Missing | Bad Kitty | Mr. Wolf's Class | soccer |
| Diary of a Pug | Last Kids on Earth | Wings of Fire | WWII |
| Scooby Doo | Ranger in Time | Ghosts | dinosaurs |
| Bad Kitty | Spiderwick Chronicles | Bird & Squirrel | sharks |

Collection

The library collection at Westside Intermediate has about 8600 books. The average age of the whole collection is 2004. The collection is evenly split with 50% of the books being fiction and 49% of the books being nonfiction. Most nonfiction books are in the science, art & recreation, history & geography, and biography sections. Because it is an elementary school, there are not a lot of need for books in the computer science, philosophy, religions, and language section. Graphic novels have become increasingly popular, and this section continues to grow.

| Characteristics of Learners | Learning Needs of Students |
|--|---|
| 63% of students were not proficient in nonfiction comprehension on the iReady assessment. | Identify ways to increase the circulation of nonfiction. Continue to add current nonfiction titles to the library collection. |
| Special Education students are not showing growth as assessed on the iReady reading assessment. | Add to the library collection high interest / low reading level books. Collaborate with the SPED teachers to help students select books that are a good fit book. |
| The data shows an increasing number of ELL students from year to year. | Increase of number of texts in Spanish and books that reflect the Hispanic culture. |
| Graphic novels have one of the highest circulation statistics | Continue to increase the number of graphic novels in the library collection. |
| 38% of students were proficient on the MD science assessment, while less than 5% of SPED students were proficient. | Increase the number of science texts that are of high interest / low reading level. |

Improving the Library Services and Collection and Librarian Goals:

1. In 2022, the average age of the collection was 1998 and the current average age is 2004. The goal of the librarian is to continue to weed outdated materials and purchase books with newer publication dates, especially nonfiction titles.
2. Increase the number of graphic novels in the library collection. These books are rich in vocabulary and popular among students. They are also extremely popular with the special education students and could potentially help increase their reading scores.
3. According to the Titlewave analysis, 35% of the library collection is diverse. A goal for the school librarian is to drill down on the topics in the diversity report and look for ways to increase the number of diverse books in each subgroup that meet the needs of the school community.

| Westside Intermediate Curriculum Map 2023-2024 | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| | Grade 2 | Grade 3 | Grade 4 | Grade 5 |
| ELA | Cinderella Around the World Pinky & Rex (book series) Stories of Immigration Freddie Ramos (book series) Awesome Insects | Defining Identity Hispanic Folktales Honoring Indigenous People Embracing Differences Charlotte's Web (novel) | Shiloh (novel) Natural Disasters Where the Mountain Meets the Moon (novel) Energy Greek Myths | Earthquake Terror (novel) Breadwinner (novel) Civil Rights Movement Mars Wrinkle in Time (novel) |
| Social Studies | Maps and geography tools Continents Maryland regions Protecting our environment Economics Citizenship | Native Americans Ancient Rome Civics Branches of government Maryland economics Early settlements | Native Americans Explorers 13 colonies Slavery in America American Revolution Declaration of Independence | Civil Rights Movement Afghanistan and the Taliban US Constitution Events leading to the Civil War Civil War Aftermath of the Civil War |
| Science | Matter Solids & liquids Changes in matter Plants & pollinators Earth systems Earthquakes Volcanoes Weathering Erosion Landforms Habitats | Force and motion Magnets Plant and animal life cycles Bees Animal adaptations Inheritance of traits Fossils Ecosystems Chesapeake Bay environmental issues Climate and weather patterns Water cycles | Rocks and fossils Weathering and erosion Earth's layers Plate tectonics Volcanoes Rock cycle Natural resources Animal adaptations Energy and speed Circuits Light and sound | Properties of matter Ecosystems and food webs Earth's rotation and orbit Moon phases Gravity Geosphere Biosphere Hydrosphere Water cycle Erosion |
| Math | Subtracting multidigit numbers Adding multidigit numbers Place value Adding and subtracting money Measurement Line plots 2 and 3 dimensional shapes | Multiplication Division Number stories Arrays Measurement Geometry Fractions | Place value Adding and subtracting multidigit numbers Classifying shapes and measuring angles Rectangles Multidigit multiplication Measurement conversions Adding, subtracting, multiplying fractions | 2-D figures, area, and volume Whole number place value and operations Converting fractions and decimals Adding and subtracting decimals Multiplying and dividing decimals Multiplying fractions Line plots and coordinate grids |
| Physical Education | | Music | | Art |
| Grades 2 and 3 Cooperative games: basketball, soccer throwing and catching Locomotor movements/ non locomotor movements Body systems | | Grades 2, 3, 4, 5 Rhythm and melody Expressive elements Reggie Laurent Mozart Beethoven | | Grades 2 and 3 Geometric shapes Mosaics and clay Pointillism Reggie Laurent Clara Peeters |
| | | | | Grades 4 and 5 Multimedia art Mosaics and clay Still life drawings Alma Thomas Frida Kahlo |

Created by April Ferrell 3/18/2024 Sources of Information: Grade level content Wicomico County Curriculum, D. Beauchamp (PE), Miss Tascione (art), Miss Cooper (music)

Curriculum Map Reflection

The curriculum map was created for Westside Intermediate School. WIS has students in grades two through five. To complete the chart for each grade level, I accessed each of the grade levels' curriculum through shared documents in Google Drive. All the curriculum and instructional materials for Wicomico County Public Schools are shared through Google Drive. I spoke with Mrs. Beauchamp, Miss Cooper, and Miss Tascione to learn more about the curriculum topics in physical education, music, and art. This curriculum map can be used to inform the school librarian of the current curriculum topics and content being taught in the classroom. Using this map, the school librarian can identify resources available in the library collection as well as identify the gaps in the collection. This information can help the librarian identify books that can be purchased to support the school learning community.

I did not encounter any obstacles completing this assignment. I think that fellow students in this course may have had a challenging time getting the library statistics. Since I am in a library position, it was easy for me to run the reports needed and access the information. The other students may have needed to depend on their school librarian to access the information for them. The most significant thing that I learned while completing this assignment was the average age of the collection over the years. In 2013, when I transitioned into the school librarian position, the average age of the collection was 1989 and had 10,774 books in the collection. By 2019, the average age of the collection was 1998. Currently, the library contains 8,619 books in the collection with an average collection age of 2004. Looking at this data, the average age of the library collection has decreased by 15 years. I have also weeded about 2,000 books from the collection from 2013 and 2023 that were outdated.

I would like to learn more about the gaps in the library collection and the current curriculum for reading, science, and social studies. Over the past few years, the curriculum has changed in each subject area. Many themes or topics previously taught are no longer taught or are being taught at another grade level. Since I have created a current curriculum map, I would like to analyze each topic and the resources currently available in the library to determine areas in need. Once I learn what the current needs are, I can look for books to purchase for the next school year.

The curriculum chart identifies the content being taught at each grade level at Westside Intermediate School. It addresses the ALA/AASL/CAEP component (1.3 and 1.4) by ensuring that students in the school community have access to materials in the school library that are relevant. By using this chart, the librarian can identify the needs within the library collection and create an environment that equitably supports learners. By using the information from the chart, the ALA/AASL/CAEP component 4.3 and 5.2 is demonstrated by making effective use of data and information to assess the needs of the school library collection to implement solutions to improve student learning and access to relevant materials.

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