



Lutheran High School Association

Rochester Hills, Michigan

Steven Meseke, Assistant Superintendent



Project Summary

1. Develop a comprehensive high school curriculum that will ensure that graduates from Lutheran High School Association Schools will be able to make a successful transition into college.
2. This is the first year of a three year curriculum improvement project.
3. Question addressed this year: "What do we want our students to know?"

Procedure:

1. Create department outlines, including mission statement, philosophy, and goals.
2. Select standards that provide the basis for the learning expectations for each course in the curriculum.
3. Create a common curriculum.



Project Results

- The faculty of the LHSA met in August of 2007 to begin developing and organizing the new curriculum design.
- Over the summer, faculty members will be working on the development of course outlines and syllabi, following the templates they were given.
- For the first time in the LHSA history, faculty have worked together to answer the question "What do we want our students to know?"
- The finished document that each department has produced captures the essence of who we are and what we are about.
- The department outlines that have been created will provide guidance and direction for each of our schools for years to come.
- Now that the difficult work of developing them has been done, modifications and enhancements to them as time goes on will be easily accomplished.

What We Have Learned

- Principals: Give responsibility for aspects of the project, then hold them accountable.
- Teachers: Guide and direct
- Leaders: Appoint a leader in each department.
- Directions: Do not assume teachers will follow directions.
- Deadlines: increase number with less due at each to break the expectations down into more manageable pieces.
- Communication: Always check for understanding. Rewrite, rephrase, and reword your communication.

I have personally learned:

- To be flexible, delegate, and not to assume anything.
- Communicate clearly and often.
- Treat people differently with their response to change.
- Keep candy bars close by.
- Pray often and truly release things to God!