

# Trinity Lutheran School

Utica, MI

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## Project Summary

The Common Core Curriculum is a standardized set of outcomes that is national in its scope. A framework to implement the CCSS within our program of education at Trinity was put in place. This includes these key components:

- ⊕ Professional Learning Communities
- ⊕ Response to-intervention-like assessments that include more than annual testing
- ⊕ Continual Professional Development
- ⊕ Integration of faith and technology

Trinity serves the population of Preschool to Grade 8, with 530 students -- in the metro Detroit area. Our mission is one of outreach: "sharing Christ's story with love!"



## Project Results

A Faculty Professional Development Day was utilized to educate and create understanding of the importance of a change to the Common Core. Resources were purchased to help the team understand and begin to change the mindset to one of more of student-centered learning.

Professional Learning Communities were established. A new schedule was created for larger blocks and common planning time. New software was purchased to house, map, and make the curriculum available to all in our community

Brigance and DIBELS testing were initiated. Local and national discussions were pursued within principal and teacher groups. This challenged us! A new policy was created to allow for study, purchase, and implementation. Constituents were invited to hear about the benefits. For the leadership of Trinity...the project has helped cast a vision of continued excellence and success for every child.



## What We Have Learned

- ⊕ Change is not easy to grasp, or to get majority buy-in
- ⊕ Building the framework instead of trying to implement CCSS in one year was very wise. This will be a two- to -three year process
- ⊕ There is an excitement building in our school!
- ⊕ We need tools, like the common lesson-planning module so that each teacher can view the other's plans
- ⊕ Continued PD will be crucial
- ⊕ The students will benefit most from this -- in career readiness and in confidence