



# Ocean City School District

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## Atlas Curriculum Mapping



A school district best serves its students and parents by establishing an integrated and dynamic relationship between its curriculum, instruction, and assessment standards.

In our district, these standards and practices are grounded in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

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# Curriculum review cycle

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Cyclical standard revisions ensure that students:

- use technology and tools strategically in learning and communicating
- use argument and reasoning to do research, construct arguments, and critique the reasoning of others
- communicate and collaborate effectively with a variety of audiences
- solve problems, construct explanations and design solutions

Through the vision statement of the Ocean City Board of Education our educators have embedded the needs and aspirations of our community into our standards-based aligned curriculum within **Atlas**. The end product is an organization of course curriculum & best practices that provides for continuous professional learning and student progress.



# What is a Curriculum Map?

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We are excited to present our database of curriculum maps for all subject areas across all grade levels.

A curriculum map provides a year-long overview of the topics or units addressed by a subject or course.

In addition, the map documents for each unit, what we want students to know and be able to do.

For each unit, you will find the relevant state standards, the enduring understandings or "big ideas," the essential questions designed to provoke inquiry, and the specific content and skills.



# What is a Curriculum Map?

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**We believe the database of curriculum affirms the partnership between home and school and will help to foster 3 essential goals:**

Curriculum Alignment: The database will allow our teachers to examine the curriculum across grade levels ensuring alignment in instruction with greater insight. For example, vertical alignment often leads to meaningful dialogue in which teachers work towards the most logical scaffolding of content and instruction.

Curriculum Communication: The primary purpose of these maps is to promote meaningful conversation about curriculum. Teachers can use the electronic database of curriculum maps to look across grade levels and content areas. As a result, they can identify gaps and repetitions, interesting ideas and opportunities for interdisciplinary connections. The maps are living documents. Look for them to be continually refined based on changing state standards and goal to ensure the highest level of learning for our students.

Curriculum Transparency: We invite parents to use the maps to be part of our ongoing conversation about curriculum. Examine the maps for what students should know and be able to do. Talk with teachers about ways to extend the curriculum at home. Engage your children with questions about what they are learning.



# What is a Curriculum Map?

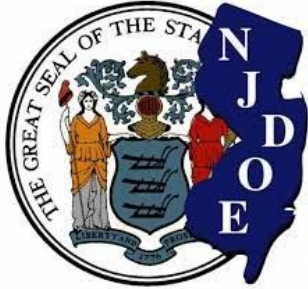
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This collection of maps represents a great deal of time, thought, and professional collaboration on the part of our teachers. Our teachers are highly effective in instruction, state certified, and are trained and recognized to be experts in their content area.

Our publication of curriculum maps represents our commitment to an open dialogue with the community about the work we do as well as our dedication to continuous improvement.

# Standards vs. Curriculum

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## Standards:

- Concise, written descriptions of what students are expected to know and be able to do at specific grade levels or grade level bands (2, 5, 8, 12)

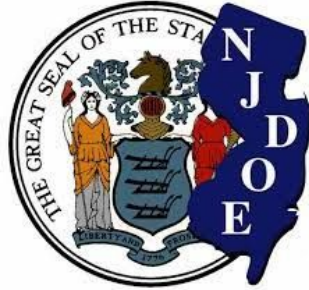


## Curriculum:

- Standards-based sequence of planned learning experiences (course of study).
- Locally developed

# Standards vs. Curriculum

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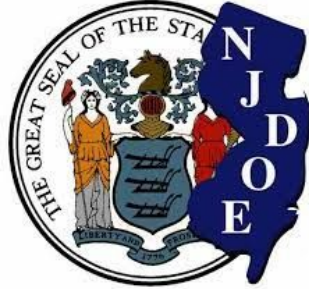
Every public school district in NJ is required to adopt and teach curriculum aligned to the standards adopted and approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education.

*However, the curriculum and instructional resources that are used to meet the standards remain a local decision made at the discretion of each district.*



# Standards vs. Curriculum

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Students advancing through the grades are expected to meet each year's grade-specific standards, retain or further develop skills and understandings mastered in preceding grades, and work steadily toward meeting the more general expectations described by the standards.



# How Are The Standards Organized?

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Anchor Standards (ELA) are designed to identify the domain-specific knowledge, skills, and abilities students will acquire throughout a kindergarten through grade twelve education in English language arts necessary for their postsecondary success.

## Sample Anchor Standard

**NJSLSA.R1.** Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

**NJSLS:** New Jersey Student Learning Standard

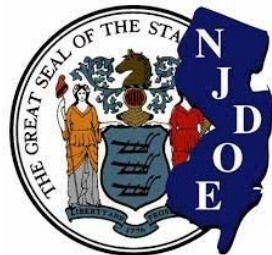
**A:** Anchor

**R1.** Reading performance expectation 1



# How Are The Standards Organized?

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RL.2.1. Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

RL. Reading Literature  
(Progress Indicator)

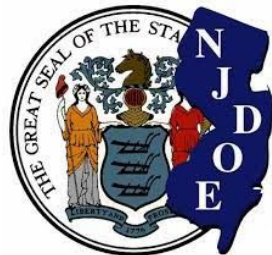
2. Grade level

1. RL performance expectation 1



# How Are The Standards Organized?

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8.1.5.AP.1: Compare and refine multiple algorithms for the same task and determine which is the most appropriate.

8.1. Standard number  
(Computer Science)

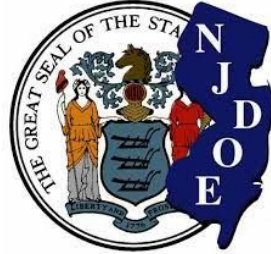
5. Grade level

AP: Disciplinary concept  
(Algorithms & Programming)

1: Performance expectation 1

# How Are The Standards Organized?

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Let's Try it!





# What is included in a curriculum map?

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Units: A unit guides the sequence and pace of skills and knowledge acquisition.

Unit Summary: Summary of the learning topics, goals, and experiences that will enable students to meet unit objectives.

Grade level & content specific standards:

- Example: Grade 8 Science standards

Interdisciplinary connections: Integrating two or more content areas to develop student knowledge, problem-solving skills, self-confidence, self-efficacy and a passion for learning while supporting students' various learning styles, diverse backgrounds, interests.



# What is included in a curriculum map?

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## Essential Questions:

- Essential questions are open-ended and don't have a single, final, and correct answer.
- Essential questions are thought-provoking and intellectually engaging. They also promote discussion and debate.
- Essential questions call for higher-order thinking, such as analysis, inference, evaluation, and prediction. They can't be effectively answered by recall alone.
- Essential questions point toward important, transferable ideas within disciplines.
- Essential questions raise additional questions and spark further inquiry.
- Essential questions require support and justification, not just an answer.
- Essential questions recur over time. They can *and should* be revisited again and again.



# What is included in a curriculum map?

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## Enduring understandings:

- Frame the big ideas that give meaning and lasting importance to such discrete curriculum elements as facts and skills;
- Can transfer to other fields as well as beyond the classroom;
- “Unpack” areas of the curriculum where students may struggle to gain understanding or demonstrate misunderstandings and misconceptions;
- Provide a conceptual foundation for studying the content area and;
- Are deliberately framed as declarative sentences that present major curriculum generalizations and recurrent ideas.





# What is included in a curriculum map?

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## Learning objectives

- Learning objectives are the implementation of long term goals written in the form of student learning.
- Effective instructional design includes learning objectives that are measurable and specific, so that students have clear guidance about what is expected of them and how their performance will be assessed.

# Accessing Atlas Curriculum Mapping



A screenshot of the Ocean City School District website. The header is black with white text and icons. It includes the district name, address, phone number, a language selector, a search bar, and social media links. Below the header is a red navigation bar with white text links. A black arrow points to the "DEPARTMENTS" link. Below the navigation bar is a yellow banner with the text "OCEAN CITY HIGH SCHOOL" and "SCHOOL CHOICE" in large, bold, black and red letters respectively. To the right of the banner is a large red graphic of a person's head in profile.



# Accessing Atlas Curriculum Mapping

Ocean City School District

501 Atlantic Avenue, Ocean City, NJ

609.399.4161

Select Language ▼

Search Ocean City Schools

District | HS | IS | PS

DISTRICT

SCHOOLS

CALENDAR

HEALTH & WELLNESS

DEPARTMENTS

EMPLOYMENT

**Quick Links:**

[Program of Studies](#)

[OCSD Curriculum](#)

## Academic Services

**Director of Academic Services:** Dr. Curt Nath  
609-399-1290 Ext. 5416 | [Email](#)

**Director of Student Services:** Dr. Lauren Gunther  
609-399-1290 Ext. 8752 | [Email](#)

**Secretary to the Directors of Academic Services, Curriculum & Facilities:**  
609-399-1290 Ext. 8757 | [Email](#)

**Ocean City School District Curriculum**

The Ocean City School District takes pride in a curriculum that not only meets the state's standards and expectations but also encourages students to strive to reach their potential. We are continually refining our learning standards for students. National and state standards as well as local experts

**Staff Directory**

- Academics & Curriculum**
- Athletics
- Facilities
- Finance
- Food Services
- Gifted & Talented
- Personnel
- Special Services Staff
- Special Education
- SEPAG
- Section 504
- Staff Resources
- Technology Help Desk
- Transportation

Ocean City School District | 501 Atlantic Ave Suite 1, Ocean City, NJ 08226 | Equal Opportunity Employer



# Resources & Curriculum Documents

By September 2022

## LINKS TO FULL STANDARDS

- Standard 1: [Visual and Performing Arts](#)
- Standard 2: [Comprehensive Health and Physical Education](#)
- Standard 5: [Science](#)
- Standard 6: [Social Studies](#)
- Standard 7: [World Languages](#)
- Standard 8: [Computer Science and Design Thinking](#)
- Standard 9: [Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills](#)

## LINKS TO SUMMARY OF CHANGES

- Standard 1: [Visual and Performing Arts \(Not available\)](#)
- Standard 2: [Comprehensive Health and Physical Education](#)
- Standard 5: [Science](#)
- Standard 6: [Social Studies](#)
- Standard 7: [World Languages](#)
- Standard 8: [Computer Science and Design Thinking](#)
- Standard 9: [Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills](#)

## EXCUSAL FROM CLASS OR PROGRAM

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7, any child whose parent or guardian presents to the school a signed statement that any **part** of instruction in health, family life education, or sex education is in conflict with his or her conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that **portion** of the course (not the entire health course, only that portion or any part of instruction). Requests must be presented in a signed statement, include the **specific standard** for excusal, and submitted to the building principal. As with many other aspects of state mandated curriculum, the New Jersey Legislature has not provided an option to opt out of the requirements under P.L. 2001, c. 32. Rest assured that we are implementing this curriculum in a way that is consistent with state law, that addresses universal principles such as respect and dignity for all, and that does not promote any political ideology. If you have specific questions about aspects of the curriculum, please feel free to contact us.

**(BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5250):** The Board of Education directs that a student be excused from any part of the instructions in health education, family life education, sex education, or instruction that includes dissection of animals that the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the student or the adult student finds morally, conscientiously, or religiously offensive. A request for excusal must be presented in a signed statement and submitted to the Principal. An excused student shall be assigned to an alternate program of independent study on a substitute topic within the health education, family life education, or sex education program. The parent's or legal guardian's right of excusal applies to any alternate program as well. No excused student will be penalized by loss of credit as a result of his/her excusal, but a student will be held accountable for successful completion of any alternate program assigned. (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7)



# Accessing Atlas Curriculum Mapping

609-399-1290 Ext. 8757 | [Email](#)

## Ocean City School District Curriculum

The Ocean City School District takes pride in a curriculum that not only meets the state's standards and expectations but also encourages students to strive to reach their potential. We are continually refining our learning standards for students. National and state standards as well as local experts shape our district curriculum. Teachers are provided many professional development opportunities to research and learn the most current best practices, enabling them to have the tools needed to provide your child with the best possible education.

[Please click here to access the Ocean City School District Curriculum site.](#)

We are committed to excellence in the Ocean City School District. We provide a learning environment in which all students learn the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and acquire the skills, knowledge, and attitudes to become responsible contributing citizens in a changing global community. This website allows all district stakeholders access to our curriculum maps. Curriculum mapping is a calendar-based method of organizing and planning what is happening in district courses at specific points during the school year.

District curriculum maps are summative and describe what students will experience during the year in specific content areas. Maps are broad guidelines of what will be covered in each course. The actual delivery of instruction by teachers varies to address the needs of the students. Well-written curriculum allows students to acquire the same content and provides all students with equal access to high academic standards and expectations. Our public site gives you access to course calendars and curriculum maps that include unit abstracts, content expectations/standards, essential /focus questions, and key concepts. At this time, our online curriculum includes K-12 core subjects and electives. We hope you find our curriculum site to be a useful educational tool.

## Accessing the Ocean City School District Curriculum Maps:

- Place cursor over **"All Curriculum / Browse"** menu. In the dropdown menu, click on a tab to view information about the **Unit Calendar or Curriculum Map**



# Accessing Atlas Curriculum Mapping

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Welcome To The Ocean City School District Curriculum site.

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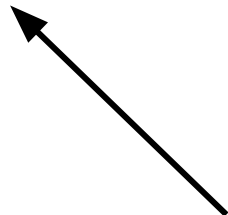
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- Filter by **Grade Level** and/or **Subject**
- Click on the **Browse** button
- Click on the link under the **Course** tab

All Courses



# Next Steps

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## Future Parent Academy Meeting Agendas

- i. Reading & Writing
- ii. Mathematics

*More detailed information to follow.*







# District Contact Information

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Dr. Lauren Gunther: Director of Student Services

- [lgunther@ocsdnj.org](mailto:lgunther@ocsdnj.org)

Dr. Curt Nath: Director of Academic Services

- [cnath@ocsdnj.org](mailto:cnath@ocsdnj.org)

Dr. Cathleen Smith: Primary School Principal

- [csmith@ocsdnj.org](mailto:csmith@ocsdnj.org)

Mr. Michael Mattina: Intermediate School Principal

- [mmattina@ocsdnj.org](mailto:mmattina@ocsdnj.org)

Dr. Wendy O'Neal: High School Acting Principal

- [woneal@ocsdnj.org](mailto:woneal@ocsdnj.org)