K-8 ELA & Math Curriculum Adoption/Implementation FAQ

What does it mean to teach with integrity versus fidelity?
We define integrity and fidelity as the following:
- ○ **Integrity** - understanding and honoring the deep logic of the design
- ○ **Fidelity** - the degree of exactness with which something is copied and reproduced

We need to embrace *integrity* **over** *fidelity.* The *planning* of this curriculum has been done at an incredible level of detail that is designed to be supportive of teachers at every stage of their career. The hope is that teachers will be less concerned with **fidelity** to the words on the page and more concerned with upholding the **integrity** of the purpose of the curriculum. The curriculum is not intended to be rigid. Teachers are expected to honor the goals in the lesson and students' understanding of the content. By doing this, it is understood that teachers will need to make instructional decisions about the most effective delivery of lesson content and the small group needs of their students to ensure that their students meet the goals of the lesson.

Why a scripted program?
What looks like a script is really a lesson vignette. It is provided to teachers to use as a study guide in preparation for the types of interactions they may plan for and expect during their instruction. Educators will use their professional judgement and knowledge of their students to deliver grade level content in a way that works for their individual class(es).

In terms of planning is the district requiring a lesson plan template or internalization document that is standard?
However, in terms of internalizing a lesson, the process itself is more important than a document. This process will help teachers ensure that they are prepared to teach the strategies and activities in each lesson. It will ensure that teachers are clear on the alignment and goals for each lesson and that they have planned to scaffold and enrich the lesson for the students in their respective classrooms.

How will the curricula align to the Virginia SOLs?
- The EL Education is based on Common Core standards, but the skills are aligned to the skills which are embedded in the Virginia Standards of Learning. The partnership will address any alignment work that may be needed.
- Eureka Math has created a Eureka Math for Virginia version which is aligned to the Virginia Standards of Learning.

What supports are included to support our students with special needs and our English Language Learners?

Both curricula (EL Education and Eureka, Va Edition) are designed with Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework which is a set of curricula design criteria to meet the needs for all students by integrating instructional methods that work across diverse learning styles.

What will the professional development implementation look like for ELA and math?
The Professional Learning for both curricula is listed on the [Summer PD Flyer](#).

What will virtual PD look like for each curriculum and how does it support teachers in teaching virtually?
- Virtual PD will be available for both Eureka Math - the VA Edition and EL Education. There is optional asynchronous professional learning as well as essential learning for teachers implementing the curriculum for the 20-21 school year. The essential professional learning experiences are synchronous and are offered at a variety of times and dates.
- The professional learning focuses on deeply understanding the curriculum but the training will model best practices in virtual learning that educators can utilize with possible virtual learning models in the upcoming school year.

Can we get data of teacher participation in PD?
- For ELA,
  - A 2020 ELA PD Google classroom has been created for each school. This Google classroom will be used to assign and monitor completion of PD.
  - A 2020 Reading Coaches Google classroom has also been created. This Google classroom will be used to assign and monitor completion of PD.
- For Math
  - Registration and Completion data will be collected for each of the following training sessions:
    - Lead Eureka
    - Launch
    - Focus on Fluency
    - Major Work of the Grade
  - A Google classroom has been created for each Eureka Math school. Teacher and coach participation in Eureka-led sessions, as well as RPS-led sessions, will be monitored using the Google classroom platform.

Will the school be 1:1 with technology?
In the spring, each student received a laptop to complete the home learning assignments. We will be continuing to work to ensure each student has access to technology through our Chromebook and hotspot distributions.

Are the science social studies aligned to VDOE standards and will teachers still have to have a science and social studies block?
The ELA and math curricula are not aligned to science and history SOLs specifically. For ELA, there are connections across standards, and we will be working to make those connections across the content blocks.   Elementary schools will still have science and history blocks.

When will teachers receive their curriculum resources?
- ELA materials for teachers to prepare for professional learning were ordered on June 15th so that teachers can receive them in as timely a manner as possible. These items include: the Teacher's Guide bundle, a Curriculum Companion, and a Participant Notebook for PD purposes. The student materials were ordered on June 22nd.
- Math materials for teachers and students were ordered by June 22nd. Teachers will have the year's scope and sequence as well as all curriculum materials for the first quarter electronically by July 31st. Student and teacher materials will be delivered for the 1st quarter by the middle of August.

Will teachers receive digital and print resources?
Yes. Teachers will receive print and digital curriculum resources.

Will there be a year long pacing guide?
Yes, the RPS Curriculum Guide will be accessible to teachers in August which will give the scope and sequence of the standards and time frame for the curriculum.

What are the expectations regarding pacing?
Pacing will be provided in partnership of EL Education and Great Minds and available on the RPS Curriculum Guides. We recommend following this pacing

Can teachers change the order of how the units are taught?
No, rearranging the units will negatively impact the progression for students as they build their conceptual understanding of the math concepts and strategies. Many of our students are working to build their foundational math understandings, and the progression of the curriculum is designed to support them in doing this. The concepts and strategies are built from day to day; unit to unit; and year to year. The curriculum is designed to provide students with consistent opportunities to build and apply their understanding throughout the whole year, not just in a week or two before they move on to another topic. This means that students are always working to build mastery. They are not expected to have attained complete mastery after 1 or 2 lessons. Connections are made within and across units. The order of the lessons may be different from what you have taught before, but it allows for connections to be made by students throughout the year's curriculum.

Will students have assessments?
Yes, there are assessments in both Eureka and EL Education's curricula that include mid-module and end of module assessments.

ELA Curriculum, EL Education, Questions
What will the elementary literacy block look like?
- The Grades K–2 curriculum offers two hours per day of content-based literacy (Module Lessons and K–2 Labs) plus one hour of structured phonics (K–2 Reading Foundations Skills Block)
  - Elementary Literacy Block K-2 - 2 hours *Note RPS will maintain a 2 ½ hour K-2 Literacy Block; Additional information will be shared regarding the use of the additional 30 minutes of time outside of the EL K-2 Literacy Block
    - 60 minute Content Based Literacy Module Lesson
    - 60 minute Reading Foundations Skills Block
- The Grades 3–5 curriculum offers two hours of content-based literacy instruction per day (Module Lessons and the Additional Language and Literacy [ALL] Block lasting eight to nine weeks.Elementary Literacy
  - Block 3-5 - 2 hours
    - 60 minute Content Based Literacy Module Lesson
    - 60 minute ALL (Additional Language and Literacy) Block

Will the EL come with authentic literature to use for Guided Reading groups?
Leveled text, normally associated with Guided Reading groups, is not part of the EL curriculum. It is suggested that leveled text from the Benchmark Literacy materials in each school be kept as these text may be used during small group intervention. Decodable Texts are a part of the EL curriculum materials in grades K-2. Authentic literature/complex text titles , both fiction and nonfiction, is included in each EL module.

Are EL Education tests and essays required?
Yes, EL Education assessments are required to assist in progress monitoring, to determine who has mastered the standards taught within each module.

Will the district purchase the complete program for EL, including the complete package of Seesaw for online learning?
We will purchase all the resources that are needed to deliver the curriculum whether face to face or virtual. There are still decisions to be made regarding what technology we will use depending how return to school looks.

What are the expectations for lesson plans and objectives? How detailed should they be if we're using the EL resource?

The lesson plans will be provided as part of the curriculum. It will be the teacher's responsibility to internalize what the lessons will look like in his/her particular class and to make adjustments to the lesson plans to meet the needs of your students. The objectives should be followed as outlined in the curriculum guide.

What are some real world examples that engage STEM and PBL's in the ELA curriculum?
- Elementary Examples
  - Grade 2 Performance Task Example:
    For this performance task, students take on the role of being a paleontologist and produce a narrative about the moment they discovered a fossil. Using a photo of a fossil that they find interesting, students will produce a draft with a beginning, middle, and end. They also revise this narrative to include elements of narrative writing they have learned about. Students then combine their writing with detailed drawings that correspond to each part of the story and add color to these drawings. Students' books are presented orally to visitors at the Celebration of Learning at the end of the module.
  - Grade 4 Performance Task Example:
    This performance task gives students a chance to blend their research of animal defense mechanisms with narrative writing. In this task, students use their research about a specific animal as the basis for a choose-your-own-adventure story. The narrative opens with a short informational piece describing the student's animal and its defense mechanisms. Then students write a narrative in which their animal is featured as the main character facing a dangerous predator, thus having to use a defense mechanism.

Math Curriculum, Eureka, Va Edition Questions
What will the elementary math block look like?
Elementary Mathematics
- The Grades K-2 Block is 75 minutes
  - The Eureka Math curriculum is intended to be taught within a 55 minute period.
  - If taught to max time, 20 minutes will remain in this block for additional support
- The Grades 3-5 Block is 90 minutes
  - The Eureka Math curriculum is intended to be taught within a 55 minute period
  - If taught to max time, 35 minutes will remain in this block for iReady, Reflex, additional remediation, intervention, and/or extension.

Will teachers receive the manipulatives that support Richmond/Eureka Math?
Schools will receive all of the math manipulatives necessary to implement the curriculum. Schools that participated in the extended pilot will be able to request materials they may need to have replenished.

How does Eureka Math VA Edition compare to Richmond Math?
Eureka Math VA Edition is the curriculum that includes our module overviews and daily lesson plans. The Richmond Math resources used in the 19-20 SY were based on the original Eureka Math OER documents. The Eureka Math-VA Edition that has been adopted for the 20-21 SY is being aligned to the Virginia Standards and will include aligned module overviews and daily lesson plans. RPS students will experience a "Richmond Math Experience" that includes Eureka daily lessons, resources/suggestions for small group instruction, common assessments, and other supporting resources.

With Richmond Math, there did not seem to be enough time to teach pre-planned lessons. Will this setup be the same?
- The Grades K-2 Block is 75 minutes
    - The Eureka Math curriculum is intended to be taught within a 55 minute period.
    - If taught to max time, 20 minutes will remain in this block for additional support
- The Grades 3-5 Block is 90 minutes
    - The Eureka Math curriculum is intended to be taught within a 55 minute period
    - If taught to max time, 35 minutes will remain in this block for iReady, Reflex, additional remediation, intervention, and/or extension.

What materials will be provided to teachers/students?
Teachers will receive:
- Digital access and print copies of the Teacher Editions for each module
- Access to Teach Eureka is a video series containing 18 hour long one-hour sessions organized sequentially by module; during the sessions, the curriculum's authors explain mathematics concepts and instructional strategies.
- Access to Eureka Navigator is an interactive digital version of the curriculum which offers all of the features of the print editions plus embedded PD videos to demonstrate key instructional practices.
- Manipulatives - class sets of manipulatives that support the curriculum
Students will receive:
- Students will receive workbooks that include Learn, Practice, and Succeed for each module.
- Students will have access to Eureka InSync that will provide additional resources for virtual learning.

Will Richmond be subscribing to Affirm for assessments?
Affirm will not be purchased; however, we will be utilizing the Performance Matters platform, and updated platform to PowerSchool, our current assessment platform.. The Performance Matters platform which consists of an item and assessment bank, as well as a data tracking system. Assessments aligned to Eureka, Va Edition and the Virginia SOLs will be housed in Performance Matters.

Will the Virginia SOLs be labeled in the curriculum?
Yes! The curriculum is currently being aligned to the Virginia State Standards. The SOLs will be referenced throughout all of the curriculum resources.

Will teachers need to do any printing?
No, teachers will not need to do any printing.

Do all of the fluency activities need to be done? Or, can we spend longer on a particular one?
This is a class and student data-driven decision. Keep in mind that the fluency activities are purposely planned for each lesson. Fluency activities serve 3 purposes:
- maintenance - to maintain skills that have already been taught,
- preparation - to provide practice to prepare for the learning for the day, and/or
- anticipation - to prepare students for the deep learning in upcoming lessons.

It is best practice to work through the activities to gain understanding of which of the purposes each activity serves in supporting students on their journey of mastering content.

Should I do Sprints in advance of the students?
Yes. It is best practice to work through the Sprint to gain understanding of the pattern in each of the four quadrants. It is critical for the teacher to identify the patterns between Sprint 1 and Sprint 2, so that they can facilitate the discussion that happens between the two.

How does this work if we are starting as a school system? Should we review the Kindergarten and 1st grade module if we teach 2nd grade because the students have not had exposure to the strategies?
The program does not present fluency activities and instructional strategies as known strategies. The key structures (number bonds, tape diagrams, place value disks) and instructional strategies (RDW, area model) used consistently throughout the grade levels support students as they connect new concepts to those already learned. However, in each module these structures and strategies are presented as strategies to be taught just as any other strategy needs to be taught. Each lesson contains models, sample problems, and answer keys to support teachers with understanding the strategies deeply.

What is the difference between Teach Eureka and Navigator?
- Teach Eureka- a video series containing 18 hour long one-hour sessions organized sequentially by module. During the sessions, the curriculum's authors explain mathematics concepts and instructional strategies.
- Eureka Navigator - an interactive digital version of the curriculum which offers all of the features of the print editions plus embedded PD videos to demonstrate key instructional practices.

Should Sprints be done everyday?
Sprints are not included in every lesson. When a Sprint is included in the lesson, it is best practice to work through the Sprint to gain understanding of the pattern in each of the four quadrants. It is critical for the teacher to identify the patterns between Sprint 1 and Sprint 2, so that they can facilitate the discussion that happens between the two. Determine the purpose (preparation, maintenance, anticipation) of the Sprint for that lesson, the goals of the lesson, and the needs of the class. Then determine if it makes sense to use the Sprint.

Is it okay to grade an Exit Ticket?
Exit Tickets are considered a checking or understanding tool. It is not intended to be graded.

What do you do with the Exit Ticket, if it isn't graded?
They should be used as one data point in determining small group content and student groupings. Exit tickets can also be used to determine who may need front-loading prior to the next lesson.

Should the Exit Ticket be reviewed with students?
It can be, but it should not replace other lesson components. Reviewing the exit tickets in a small group setting with students who had similar challenges may be helpful at times.

Will we have access to the digital suite through Clever?
We are working to ensure the Eureka Digital Suite can be accessed through Clever.