

**Excerpt from Prismatic Operational Audit of Fairfield Public Schools, December 14, 2010**

**Re: Curriculum Leaders**

**FINDING 3-9**

Current central office curriculum staffing is not sufficient to support curricular development and implementation in FPS schools.

The state of Connecticut does not provide curriculum documents to its school districts, so districts must develop documents and processes themselves. Currently, FPS has two full-time Curriculum Leaders for grades K-5 at the central office, one in Math/Science, and one in Language Arts. The district has Curriculum Leader positions for grades 6-12, one each for Science, English/Language Arts, and Math. The Math Curriculum Leader position for secondary schools was vacant at the time of the on-site visit.

One additional Curriculum Leader wears two hats, serving 6-12 for Social Studies and K-12 for Library Media/Technology. Many staff noted that adding responsibility for technology to that position has made a tremendous stride toward beginning to integrate technology and instruction. It has also helped bring instruction into decisions about technology in the district.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Improve the organizational structure for curricular leadership.**

Prismatic recommends that the district:

- \* divide the Social Studies/Library Media/Technology Curriculum responsibilities;
- \* add an additional curriculum leader position for Social Studies;
- \* fill the vacancy for 6-12 Mathematics; and
- \* assign a Technology/Media Curriculum Leader to the Technology Department.

The need for instruction and technology to be more closely tied together in FPS was a primary concern expressed at multiple levels during the review. Considering how great the needs of FPS are in the area of technology, the Technology/Library Media position needs to be made a full-time curriculum leader position, playing a vastly expanded role in district planning and decision-making regarding instructional technology. All building techs supporting technology in the schools should report to the Curriculum Leader for Library Media/Technology.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The budget currently contains funding for the Math Curriculum Leader. The addition of a new Curriculum Leader to take over the Social Studies content area would cost the district the average salary of administrators, including benefits, for a total of \$155,730.

Recommendation	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Add a Curriculum Leader for Social Studies	(\$155,730)	(\$155,730)	(\$155,730)	(\$155,730)	(\$155,730)