

## COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS CFBISD

### Philosophy of Community of Learners

The Community of Learners is the online curriculum system for the Carrollton Farmers Branch Independent School District. It is a system designed to be user friendly, to offer great flexibility and to provide quick access to curriculum and tools that assist teachers. It is a dynamic and fluid work in progress that will be improved as users provide input and feedback.

The district's expectation is that all teachers will follow the scope and sequence to ensure student learning as well as success on benchmarks and TAKS. The TEKS have been carefully sequenced to guarantee that students have had the opportunity to learn the knowledge and skills that will be assessed.

Research conducted by Bob Marzano lists a Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum as the number one school level factor impacting student achievement. The Community of Learners is the system to hold the guaranteed and viable curriculum for the children of CFBISD.

### Definition of Terms

The following terms are used to describe the components of the COL system.

**At a Glance** – a yearlong look at the curriculum for a subject of an identified grade

Selecting the course level on the selection screen may access this information.

**Cognitive Process Dimension** – six areas of cognitive complexity listed in the taxonomy framework to guide the planning of instruction

This information is located on the Detail page.

**Community of Learners** – the online software that manages the CFBISD curriculum

**COL Handbook** – the online document that identifies terms and processes related to the district curriculum

Selecting curriculum and COL Handbook on the CFB portal may access the handbook.

**Content Specificity** – section on the Details page that is used to “clarify” the content the TEKS is asking the teacher to teach

**Critical Questions** – questions students must answer to demonstrate mastery of the Student Performance Expectations (SPE) of a unit  
Critical Questions are located on the Unit Information page of the Scope and Sequence.

**Curriculum Selection** – the field of COL that enables the user to select specific grade levels and subject area curriculum

**Details** – additional information of the SPE that provides clarification of Student Performance Expectations

The information listed in this section is used in planning lessons and is located under the SPE.

**Differentiation** – strategies listed on the Details page to meet the needs of academically diverse learners

**Duration** – suggested time to teach the identified SPE(s) as listed in the Notes section of the Scope and Sequence

**Essential Curriculum** – Student Performance Expectations aligned to TEKS

**Exemplary Lesson** – Teacher developed lessons aligned to high priority SPE’s, TEKS, and/or TAKS

Teachers are required to teach the exemplary lessons. The lessons may be found in the Teacher Resource Section of the Scope and Sequence page.

**Feedback** – Input about the COL system provided to the Curriculum and Instruction Department

The feedback link is on the curriculum page of the portal and listed as “please provide feedback or report broken links.”

**Graduate Profile** –competencies that a learner should possess at graduation from CFBISD schools

**Guiding Questions** – specific questions related to an identified Student Performance Expectation  
These questions are on the Details pages of COL.

**Global Documents** – storehouse for generic subject area documents referenced in specific units  
Global documents may be viewed by selecting Course on the Curriculum Planner Selection screen.

**High Priority SPE** – Student Performance Expectations identified due to one or more of the following reasons: low performance, essential to the learning, and/or objectives of TAKS  
High priority is listed behind SPE's identified as such.

**Knowledge Dimension** –four categories identified in the taxonomy used in the planning of instruction  
This information is listed on the Details page.

**Language of the Discipline** – words and/or phrases related to a specific content area  
These terms are listed on the Details page as applicable to the SPE/TEKS.

**Language of Instruction** –words and/or phrases related to skills and processes of instruction and strategies  
These terms are listed on the Details page as applicable to the instructional level of the SPE/TEKS.

**Notes** – information added by the writing cadre or content coordinator to support the Student Performance Expectation  
The Notes section is located on the Scope and Sequence page.

**Resources/Materials** – a list of instructional materials listed in the Notes section of the Scope and Sequence to which all teachers should have access

**Student Performance Expectation** – TEKS educational objectives that students are to master  
These are listed in the Scope and Sequence.

**Student Profiles** – A list of multifaceted global knowledge and skill statements that indicate what the students are expected to know and be able to do by the end of the grade level  
Student Profiles are listed on each Unit Description page.

**Suggested Strategies** - brief statement(s) of appropriate strategies listed on the Details page to assist in addressing the identified TEKS/SPE

**Suggested Time Frame** – a recommended number of days for the instruction of the unit  
This information is found on the Unit Description page.

**TAKS** – Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, the state assessment System

**Taxonomy Table** – the interrelationships of the cognitive processes and knowledge dimensions as described in [A Taxonomy for Learning, Teaching, and Assessing](#)

**Teacher Resource Links** – supportive resources that may be used during instruction  
These resources are links to websites or CFB documents and are on the Scope and Sequence page.

**TEKS** – Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, the state curriculum

**Unit Description**–a summary of the content studied in the unit and accessed by selecting “Unit” in the Curriculum Planner Selection screen

**Video Clips: United Streaming, Digital Curriculum, and Power videos**