

FAIRFIELD

Public Schools
- Connecticut -

AP Psychology





Tonight's Presentation

- Why Advanced Placement Psychology?
- Overview of the Course Curriculum
- Curriculum Development Process
- Resource / Textbook Search Process and Recommendation
- Next Steps



Why AP Psych?

- Very High Student Interest in Fairfield:

	ENROLLMENT IN PSYCHOLOGY COURSES			
	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Full Year Psychology Elective Enrollment	170	196	160	224
Semester Psychology Elective Enrollment	112	125	108	110
Total Students	282	321	268	334
Students That Took AP Exam in Psychology	9	18	18	20



Why AP Psych?

- One of the Most Popular AP Courses Nationally (College Board)
- Second Most Popular College Major (Princeton Review)
- Important Skills For College and Career
 - Research methods and data analysis
- Opens the Door to a Variety of Careers



Overview of the Course

- Equivalent to an introductory college course in Psychology
- This challenging and rigorous course will introduce students to:
 - the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental processes
 - the facts, principles, and phenomena in each of the major subfields within psychology
 - the ethics and methods of psychological research



Overview of the Curriculum

- **Content and Skill Standards**
 - College Board AP Psychology Course Description
 - American Psychological Association (APA)
 - Connecticut Core Standards
 - Connecticut Social Studies Standards
- **Central Understandings**
- **Essential Questions**



Overview of the Curriculum

Advanced Placement Psychology: Year-at-a Glance

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 6
Introduction to Psychology I. History and Approaches II. Research Methods	Mind and Body III. Biological Bases of Behavior IV. Sensation of Perception V. States of Consciousness	Learning and Motivation VI. Learning VII. Cognition VIII. Motivation and Emotion	Personality Development IX. Developmental Psychology X. Personality XI. Testing and Individual Differences	Abnormality XII. Abnormal Behavior XIII. Treatment of Abnormal Behavior	Social Psychology XIV. Social Psychology Research Project (post AP Exam)



Curriculum Development Process

- Research and Review of Standards
- Organized Standards into Units of Study
- Focus Group / Feedback
- Curriculum Posted on the District Website for Community Feedback
- Student Focus Groups / Feedback
- Curriculum Council Review / Feedback
- Revised Document Based on Feedback



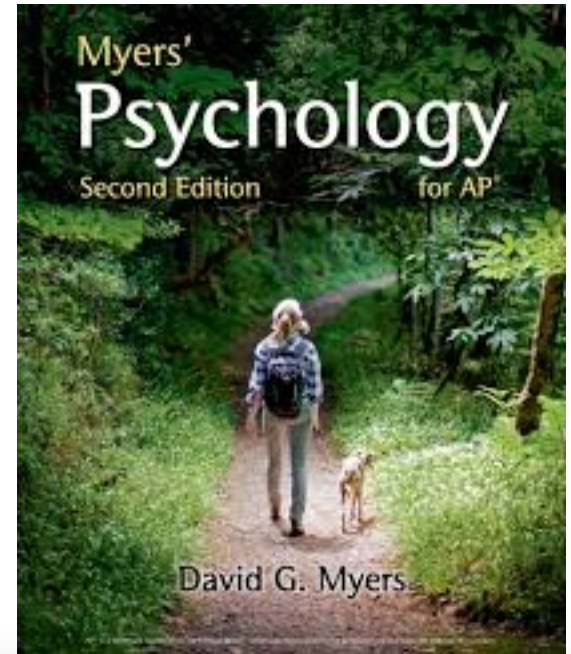
Resource Search Process

- **Factors in Consideration:**
 - Content
 - Readability
 - Rigor
 - Ancillary Materials
- **Teacher / Administrator Search Committee**
- **Publisher Presentations and Focus Group**
- **Student Focus Groups / Feedback**
- **Selection Committee**



Resource Recommendation

- **Title:** Myers' Psychology for AP, Second Edition
- **Author:** David G. Myers
- **Copyright:** 2014
- **Publisher:** BFW Worth Publishers





Next Steps

- Curriculum Implementation Guide
- AP Training for Teachers
- Professional Development / Collaborative Planning
- AP Audit of Syllabus
- Common Assessments
- Implementation and Continuous Evaluation
 - Observations, Feedback, Future AP Scores



Anticipated Costs

- **Textbook / Resources:**
 - 90 copies X \$133.00 = \$11,970
- **Summer Work:**
 - 16hrs X 3 teachers X \$38.76/hr. = \$1,860.40
- **AP Training / PD:**
 - 3 teachers X \$900 = \$2,700
- **No Impact on Staff FTE**

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Thank You

