Business Partner Feature: Build Your Own Curriculum

About BYOC

BuildYourOwnCurriculum (BYOC) is a curriculum management tool used by school districts across the country. Experience has taught the BYOC team that the success or failure of any district is directly proportional to the district staff training and the commitment of the district leadership team to becoming a curriculum driven institution.

BYOC's initial approach to addressing this issue was to partner with AESA members across the country. In this partnership the agencies utilize BYOC in their district curriculum development efforts, ideally merging a high-quality curriculum tool, BYOC, with high quality training and professional development from the agencies. BYOC views these partnerships as a great three-way win: agencies receive a commission for districts implementing BYOC and are paid to provide training, while maintaining their role as the curriculum leader for the district, districts receive a great combination of powerful technology with local leadership, and obviously, the number of districts using BYOC grows. Today, BYOC partners with 16 agencies across the country.

Adding something new!

While this approach has been extremely productive, several of the agencies and the BYOC team felt something more was needed. After many discussions with the agency network, BYOC teamed with CESA 6 in Wisconsin to develop a series of online professional development modules focused on improving the curriculum writing skills of district staff and the curriculum understanding and valuation of district leadership. These modules are designed to be delivered in three models:

- Standalone use by district staff,
- Hybrid – standalone use combined with online mentoring, or
- As the base for onsite professional development.

In keeping with BYOC's philosophy of partnering with AESA members, their partners can be certified as the provider of the online mentoring and onsite training associated with the modules.

The CESA 6 team leveraged their experience working with BYOC districts and their experience developing online courses to produce the following modules:

Staff Modules

- Desired Results Aligning to Standards and Learning Targets Utilizing BYOC
- Enduring Understandings and Essential Questions Utilizing BYOC
- Assessment Literacy Utilizing BYOC
- Building and Implementing Quality Assessments in BYOC and BYOC+

- High Yield Instructional Strategies Utilizing BYOC
- Accessing and Utilizing Data Within BYOC

Leadership Modules

- Planning for Implementation
- Curriculum Concepts and Curriculum Development in BYOC
- Managing the Process Building a Curriculum Culture

To join the BYOC network, or simply to learn more about BYOC and how they partner with AESA members, contact Chris Trina, 800.596.0735 x801, mailto:ctrina@schoolsoftwaregroup.com.