

# MCPS Curriculum 2.0

Welcome!

What is it?

How will it help your child?

Why now?

What can you expect?



Greencastle Elementary School • December 2011



## Why MCPS Curriculum 2.0?

In 2001 MCPS launched a rigorous new curriculum.

MCPS gathered feedback from parents, teachers, and students and began hearing some of the same themes –

**More science!**

**More social studies!**

**More art, music, and physical education!**

**More time! (mainly from teachers)**



Creative Thinking

Critical Thinking

Academic Success



## Why MCPS Curriculum 2.0?

Many students have excelled in reading and mathematics since 2001. MCPS noticed that students who had the most success in advanced reading and mathematics had certain characteristics as students –

**Successful students are critical thinkers.**

**Successful students are creative.**

**Successful students know how to learn.**

Creative Thinking

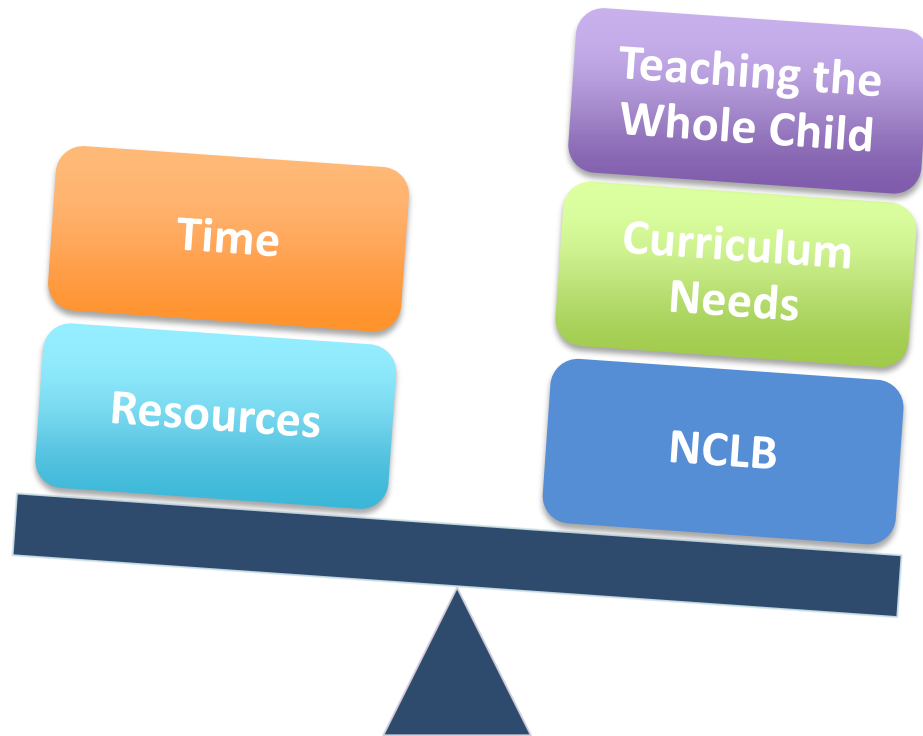
Critical Thinking

Academic Success



# Why MCPS Curriculum 2.0?

MCPS needed to re-strike a balance to reach our goals



Creative Thinking

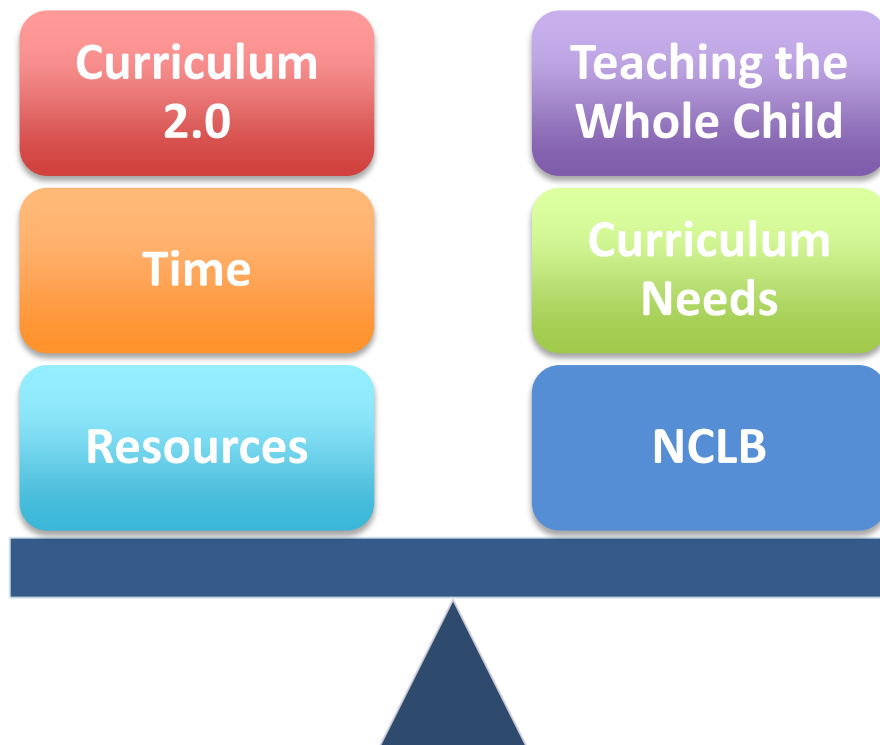
Critical Thinking

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# Why MCPS Curriculum 2.0?

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## What is MCPS Curriculum 2.0?

- ✓ New Internationally-driven standards in mathematics, reading, and writing.
- ✓ Renewed focus on teaching the whole child.
- ✓ Integrates thinking, reasoning, and creativity for a lifetime of learning.

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## New internationally-driven standards in mathematics, reading, and writing

- ✓ Developed by a group of states to help U.S. students compete favorably with peers in leading academic nations.
- ✓ More challenging than current Maryland standards.
- ✓ Greater emphasis on depth of understanding at the elementary level in mathematics, reading, and writing.
- ✓ Learn more at [corestandards.org](http://corestandards.org)



**Art**

**Mathematics**

**Music**

**Health**

**Information**

**Literacy**

**Reading**

**Science**

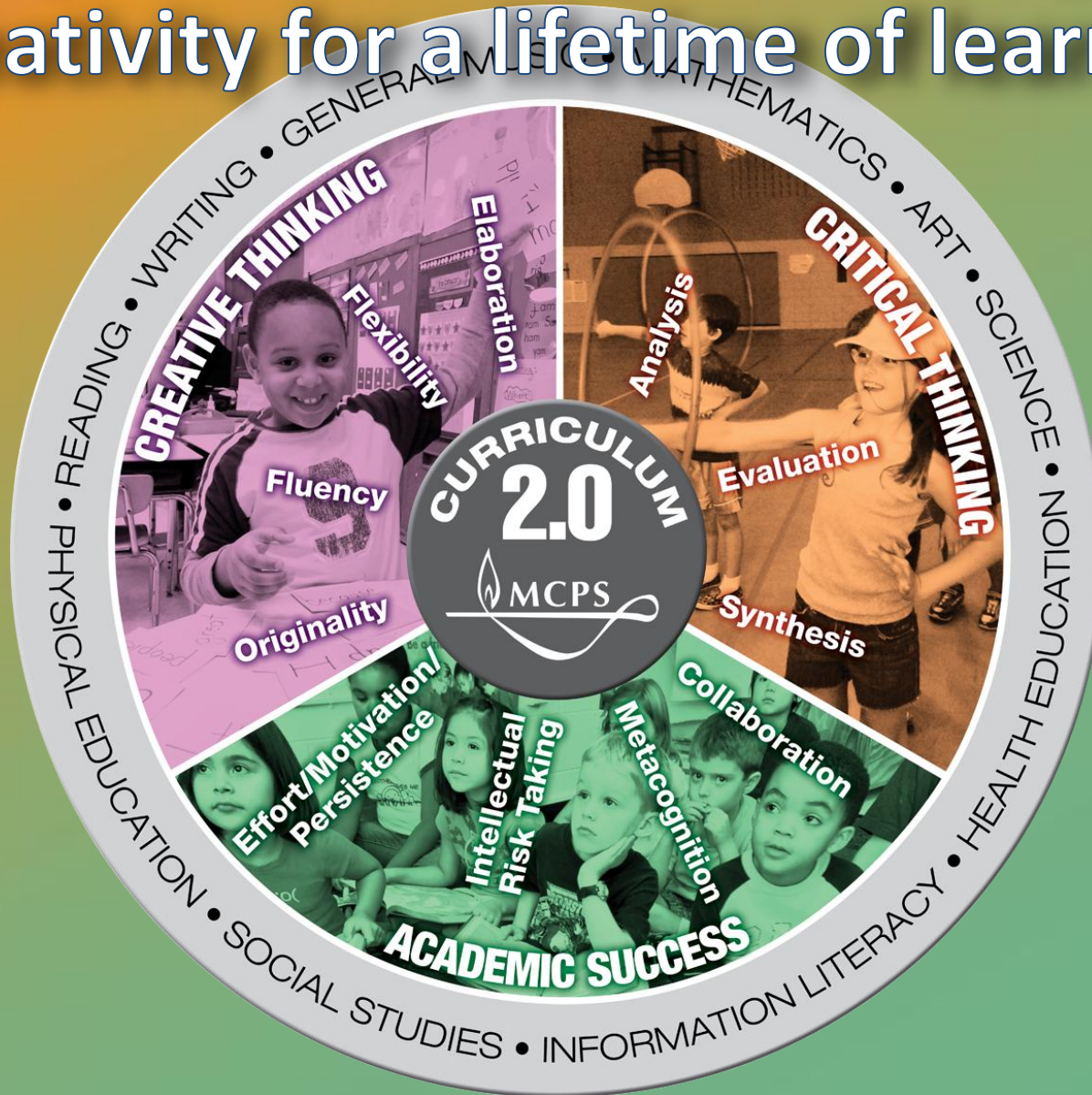
**Social Studies**

**Writing**

## Renewed focus on teaching the whole child

- ✓ The Thinking and Academic Success Skills are the common thread that integrate content areas.
- ✓ Content areas still maintain their separate goals and objectives.
- ✓ Students learn more when making connections across content areas – natural areas for connections are provided.

# Integrates thinking, reasoning, and creativity for a lifetime of learning.





# What is MCPS Curriculum 2.0?

| Staying The Same  | Upgrade   |
|---|---|
| <p>Strong focus on reading and mathematics</p>  | <p>Internationally-driven standards in mathematics, reading, and writing</p>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Separate times for art, music, and physical education and other specials</li><li>• Classroom teachers providing instruction in science and social studies</li></ul> | <p>Integration of content areas through Thinking and Academic Success Skills</p>  |
| <p>Thinking skills included in content areas</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specific instruction on Thinking and Academic Success skills across content areas</li><li>• Clearly defined critical thinking, creative thinking, and academic success skills</li></ul> |

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## Curriculum 2.0 Behind The Scenes



- ✓ All web-based planning for teachers. Curriculum and resources in one place.
- ✓ Teachers can upload, share, and evaluate resources with all same level teachers in MCPS
- ✓ Future plans include a parent portal into the myMCPS Instructional Center

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## When is MCPS Curriculum 2.0 coming?

| School Year | Implementation                  |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| 2011–2012   | Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2* |
| 2012–2013   | Roll up to Grade 3              |

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## Where can I learn more?

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/2.0/>

- ✓ Definitions and examples of Thinking and Academic Success Skills
- ✓ Parent Guides for the content in each grade level – K-2 (what will my student learn?)
- ✓ Video examples of integration
- ✓ Video on Mathematics changes
- ✓ Share your feedback with MCPS
- ✓ Detailed curriculum framework (philosophy, research, content area learning objectives)

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