

USING THE **C.O.W.** TO **MOOOOOOOOVE** THE CURRICULUM

Preparing an integrated approach to developing and delivering curriculum is like writing, practicing and performing a symphony. When each of the instruments is played individually with perfection, it sounds very good; but when the individual instruments are played in unison with other instruments, the sound is incredible.

Like the individual instruments, each subject in the curriculum must be mastered and taught well. The subjects must interact with each other to make the instruction more rigorous and relevant. In integrated curriculums, the teachers know when to interact with other subject areas and when to continue on their own.

C.O.W. stands for Curriculum On the Wall. This is a simple mapping process where teachers record the curriculum taught each week. At the end of the year, each teacher will have a visual map of their curriculum, in every subject. Between the first and second year, teachers will look for connections between subjects and plan on integrating information into their lessons. During the third year, the maps are brought to community businesses to foster a partnership with the school that will help develop and support instruction. Look for the development of the COW in the future, or come and visit the school for a tour.