Selecting Mapping Software Solutions
How to avoid the pitfalls when you don’t know where to start

Earl Nicholas
Director of Communications
Curriculum21
earl@curriculum21.com

Based upon the collaborative works of Heidi Hayes Jacobs and Bena Kallick

Why map?
This is the ultimate Essential Question!

**Essential Question:**
How can we avoid making mistakes when we don’t know what we are doing?

**Content:**
Software – wordprocessing, spreadsheets, shared docs, commercial and independent programs, databases.

**Skills:**
- Identify my school’s actual needs and goals
- Differentiate between spreadsheets and shared software
- Determine where my school is and where we are going
- Evaluate software/hardware strengths

**Assessment:**
Participant notes – draft plans for the future
Where are we today?

Why can’t we just write our maps and not use software?

How do we know what system is best for us?

www.tinyurl.com/c21software

Indiana Department of Education
Division of Compensatory Education/Title I
Tools for Curriculum Development and Implementation
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Why can’t we just write our maps and not use software?

DON’T DO IT “THE OLD-FASHIONED” WAY!
WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?

Just get the maps on the wall to satisfy the superintendent.
Use word processing or a spreadsheet, finish the job and move on.

Reach consensus on what should be taught at levels and in departments.
Use a free shared document service like google docs.

Analyze authentic data and base our curriculum upon this data.
Use a multi-user online mapping platform.

How do we know what system is best for us?

Formulate your questions before you interview vendors.

Don’t ask, “Does your system provide skills reports?” Every vendor will answer, “Yes.”

Instead say, “Show us HOW your system provides skill reports.”

Don’t ask, “Can we search for individual skills or assessments across grade levels?”

Instead say, “Show us HOW your system can search for specific skills and assessments.”
More on formulating your questions.

Don't ask, "Do you include Standards (state, CCSS, etc)?"
Instead say, "Show us HOW your system uses standards (type or pull-down)."

Don't ask, "Can we see other teachers' maps?"
Instead say, "Show us HOW your system compares multiple teacher maps."

Even more on formulating your questions.

Don't ask, "Can we add additional fields (boxes) on our maps?"
Instead say, "Show us HOW your system can add fields."

Don't ask, "Can we link to lesson plans?"
Instead say, "Show us HOW your system links to lesson plans."

http://tinyurl.com/c2software
The Ultimate Answer:
One centrally-located and easily-accessible database.

The ability to retrieve and analyze the authentic data from every classroom.

The ability to access this data 24/7 from any location.

Commercial Mapping Platforms

WHERE CAN WE GO FOR HELP?

www.tinyurl.com/c21software
THE 16 HABITS OF MIND

- Persisting
- Managing Impulsivity
- Listening with understanding & empathy
- Thinking flexibly
- Thinking about thinking
- Triving for accuracy
- Questioning & posing problems
- Applying past knowledge to new situations
- Thinking & communicating with clarity and precision
- Gathering data thru all senses
- Creating, imagining, innovating
- Responding with wonderment and awe
- Asking responsible risks
- Inding humor
- Thinking interdependently
- Remaining open to continuous learning