



Wood Hill Expeditionary Learning Review

Andover School Committee
Presentation

June 23, 2009

Agenda

- ▶ Participants
- ▶ Introduction to Expeditionary Learning
- ▶ EL . . . Investigations
- ▶ EL . . . Expeditions
- ▶ Professional Development
- ▶ Genesis of an Expedition
- ▶ MCAS Data
- ▶ Survey
- ▶ Alignment to the Renewal Cycle
- ▶ Carnival . . . Investigation
 - Ms. Norma Villarreal, Ms. Gina Murray, Mr. Zee Soffron, and students

Participants

- ▶ Patrick Bucco
- ▶ Bill Fleischmann
- ▶ Susan Healey
- ▶ Norma Villarreal
- ▶ Susan M. Nicholson
 - Teachers

Introduction to EL

- ▶ Expeditionary Learning Core Practice Benchmarks
 - Learning Expeditions
 - Active Pedagogy
 - Culture and Character
 - Leadership and School Improvement
 - Structures

EL Design Principles

- ▶ Self-Discovery
- ▶ Ideas
- ▶ Responsibility for Learning
- ▶ Empathy and Caring
- ▶ Success and Failure
- ▶ Collaboration and Competition
- ▶ Diversity and Inclusion
- ▶ The Natural World
- ▶ Solitude and Reflection
- ▶ Service and Compassion

EL . . . Investigations, 2006-2009

▶ Grade 6

- **Engineering . . . outdoor classroom & furniture**
- **How physically accessible is downtown Andover**
- **Increasing Origami in the Classroom**
- **Photography and Literacy Exploration**

▶ Grade 7

- **Dickens Day . . Portraits and Biographies**
- **Forces and Motion**
- **Carnaval**
- **Walk-A-Thon**

▶ Grade 8

- **Civil War**
- **Masks**
- **Past, Present, and Future, Bread and Roses**
- **Global Warming**
- **Women in Antebellum America**

“Out of the Dust”
Carnaval
Shakespeare
Social Injustice

EL . . . Expeditions, 2006-2009

▶ Grade 6

- Early Human
- Ancient China

▶ Grade 7

- Operation Beautification
- Mini-Golf Course
- Election 2009
- “The Power of an Image”

Ancient Greece
Retention Pond
Ecology

▶ Grade 8

- Quinceanera Celebration
- “The Lion King”

Human Body

EL . . . Professional Development

► Site Seminars

- King Middle School – 2 days -Portland, Maine
- Crossroads School – 2 days - Baltimore, Maryland
- Genesee Community Charter School – 2 days Rochester, New York
- World of Inquiry School – 2 days -Rochester, New York

► Active Pedagogy Work--Writing in the Content Areas (whole staff)

► Workshops

- Summer EL Planning Workshops – 2006, 2007, 2008
(24-30 staff members each year)
- Writing Assessment Scoring
- Photography Education
- Chinese Culture and Origami
- Service Learning

EL . . . Professional Development

▶ Institutes

- **Assessment** **Writing & Illustrating History**
- **Reading** **Endangered Species Summit**
- **Writing** **Data**
- **New Teacher** **Leadership**
- **Math**

▶ Outward Bound Educators Course

- **Cataract Canyon Rafting—Utah**
- **Physiology and Fitness Summit—Colorado**
- **Apostle Island Sea Kayaking—Michigan**

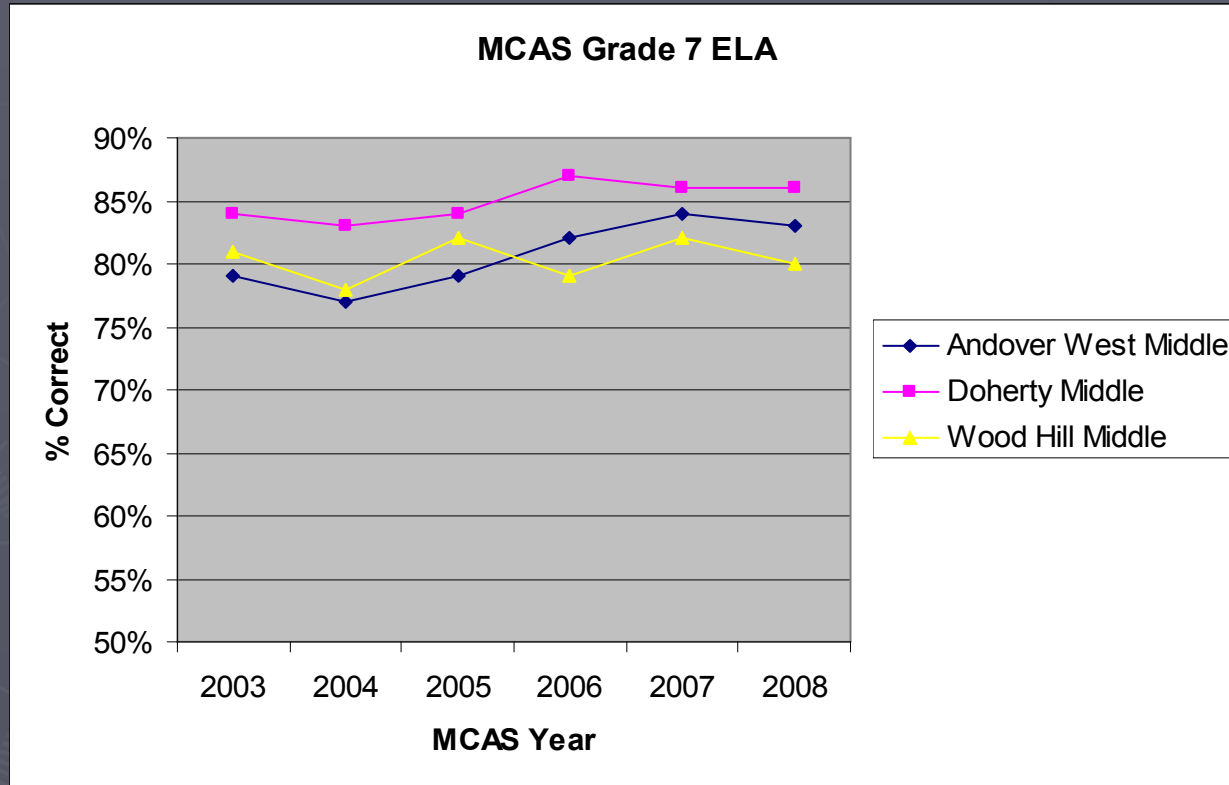
▶ National Conference Participation

- **2005 - Denver, CO** **2 staff members**
- **2006 - Oakland, CA** **3 staff members**
- **2007 - Portland, ME** **14 staff members**
- **2008 - Denver, CO** **4 staff member/2 presented**
- **2009 - Baltimore, MD** **4 staff members/3 presented**

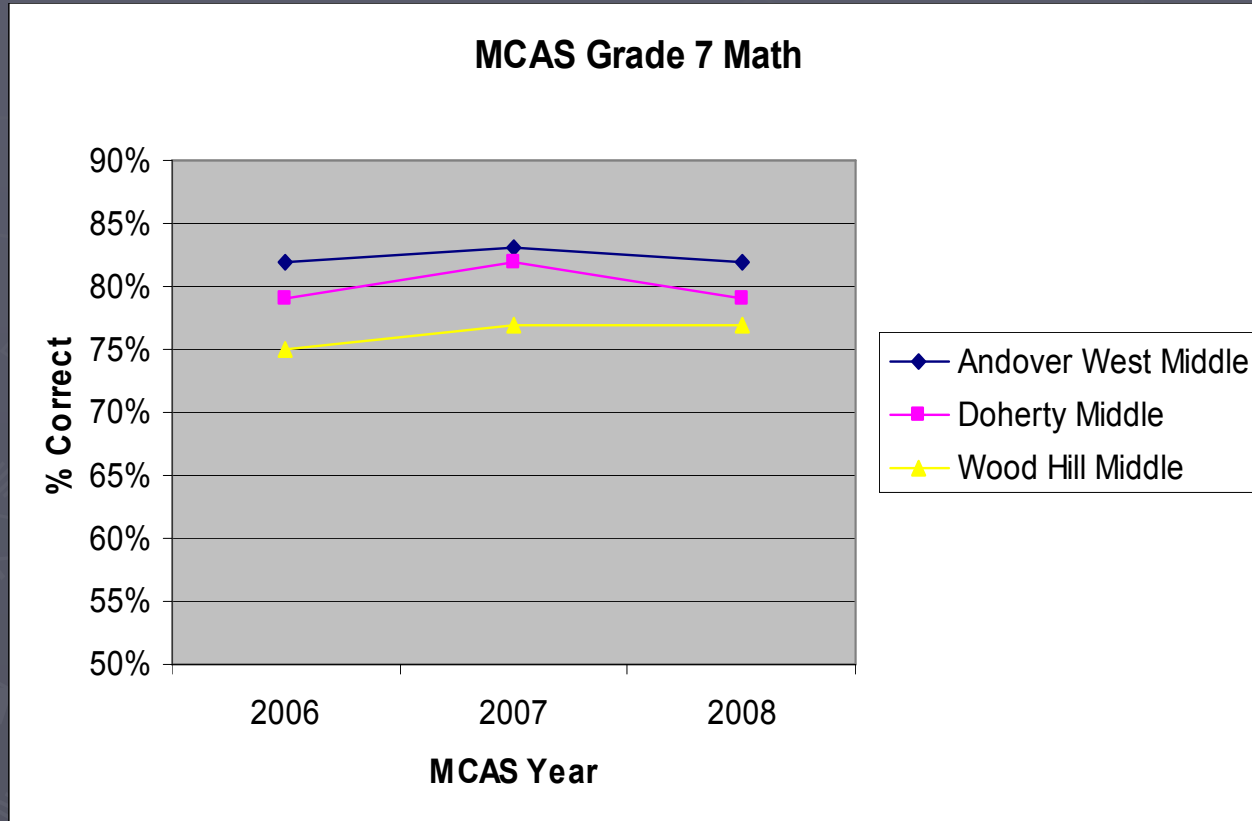
Genesis of an Expedition

- ▶ Topic based on the curriculum
- ▶ Development of Guiding Questions
- ▶ Creation of Learning Targets for Students
- ▶ Planning of Projects and Final Product
- ▶ Assessment
- ▶ Next Steps
 - Narrative, date, immersion, service, parents, continuous improvement

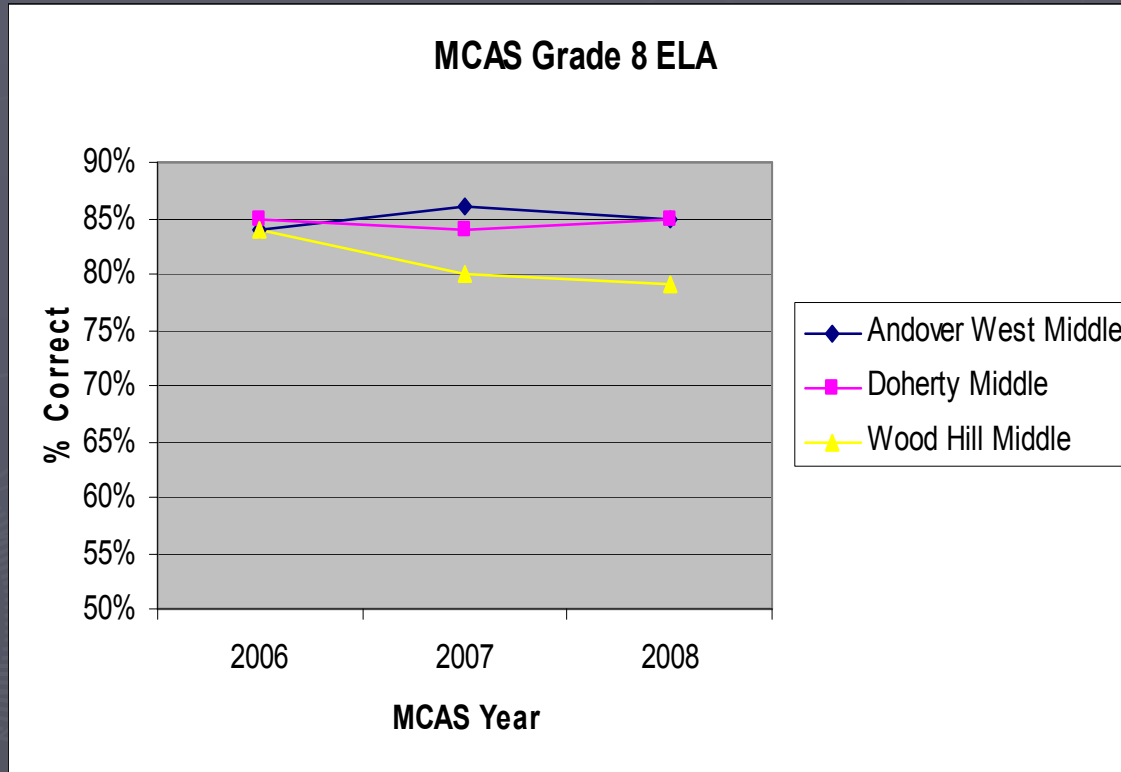
MCAS, ELA, Grade 7



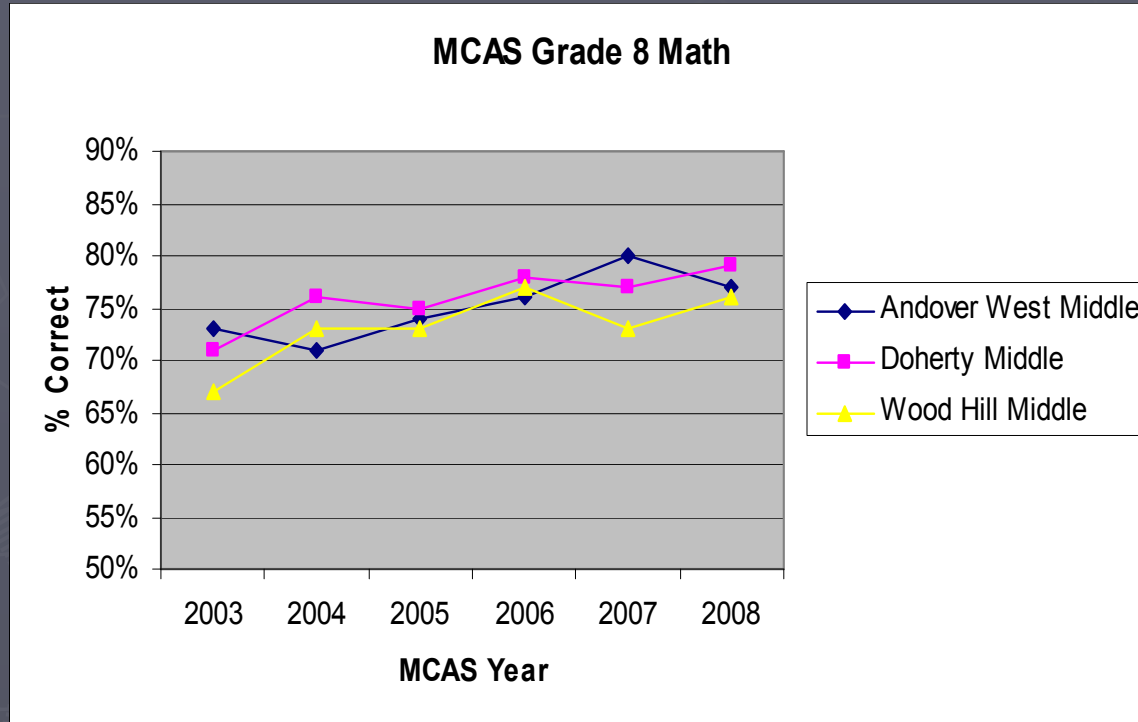
MCAS, Math, Grade 7



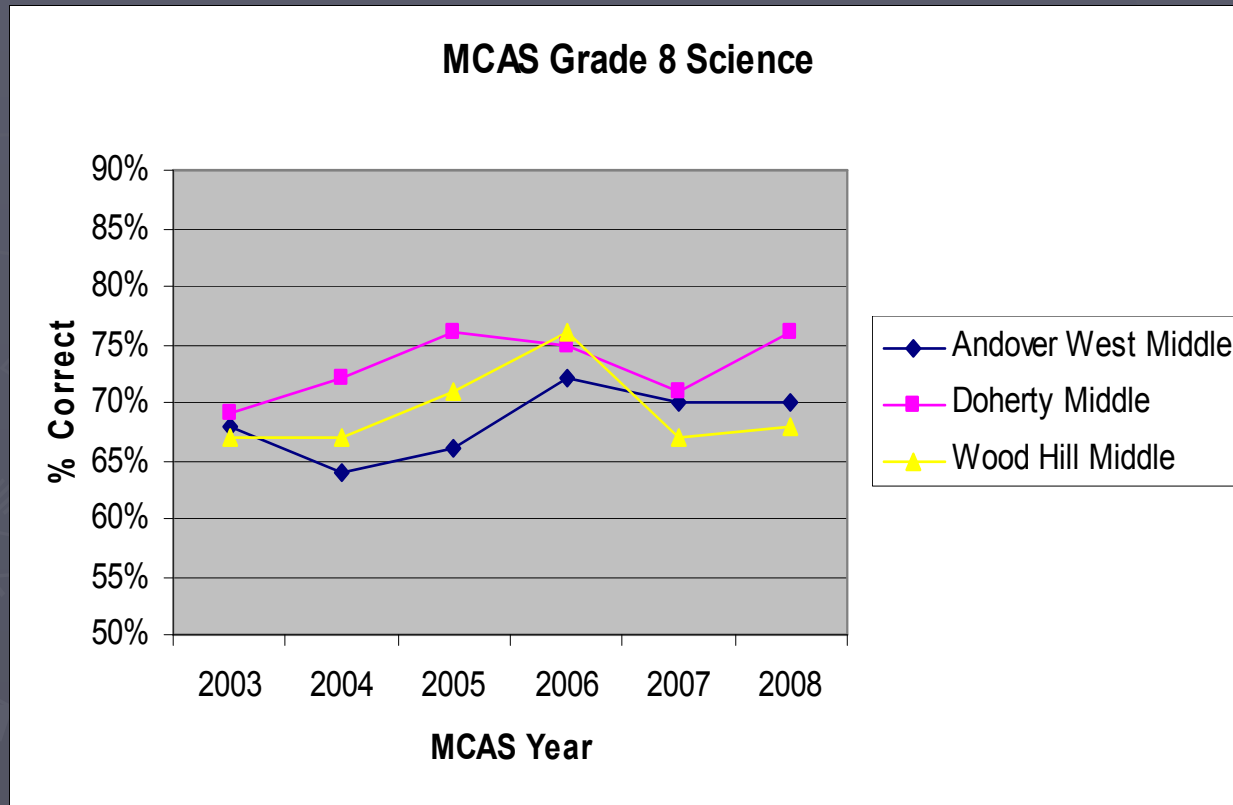
MCAS, ELA, Grade 8



MCAS, Math, Grade 8



MCAS, Grade 8, Science



Survey

- ▶ How long have you been a teacher at Wood Hill?
- ▶ What professional development initiatives have you been engaged in over the past few years?
- ▶ In what ways has the professional development impacted your delivery of instruction?
- ▶ Do you feel that the investigations/expeditions and/or common middle school pedagogy at your grade level support the Andover benchmarks and the MA Curriculum Frameworks?

Survey Results

- ▶ 78% of the surveys returned (34/44)
 - 28 teachers indicated that they incorporated the benchmarks into their Investigations and/or Expeditions
 - 6 teachers—Some expeditions too long to cover benchmarks
- ▶ Randomly selected 1 Investigation, 4 Expeditions for further review
 - Represents feedback from 13 teachers
 - ▶ Identify the benchmarks addressed through the Investigation, Expedition
 - ▶ Identify the time frame for the Investigation, Expedition
 - ▶ Expedition . . . The Power of an Image
- ▶ Investigation . . . Carnival

Curriculum Renewal Cycle

Program Review & Recommendation Cycle

- ▶ Form Curriculum Review Committee—district team of teachers and administrators
- ▶ Identify chairperson of CRC
- ▶ Review of current curriculum frameworks and district benchmarks to determine alignment
- ▶ Review district vision and goals
- ▶ Review and revise concept maps, scope, sequence
- ▶ Review current curriculum in the district
- ▶ Review and revise renewal cycles
- ▶ Review current best practices in curriculum area
- ▶ Prepare evaluation of curriculum program
- ▶ Share evaluation of curriculum program

Carnaval

- ▶ Investigation
- ▶ Interdisciplinary
 - Spanish, art, music
- ▶ Ms. Norma Villarreal, Ms. Gina Murray, Mr. Zee Soffron, and students