

# WASC Action Plan Newsletter

Monday, January 27, 2014

English and Math

SIOP

Common Core

AP and A-G

School Culture

## ACTION STEPS SNAPSHOT



**English and Math: Ricardo De Ara Aceves scores "advanced" on CST**



**SIOP: Courtney Enos guides a Cycle of Inquire (COI)**



**Jeff Pollock's AP students Common Core ready: students practice document-based questions (DBQ)**



**AP and A-G: Ms. Lama master scheduling for success**



**School Culture: Morabito's students changing the landscape of Kennedy**

COMMON CORE

## Jeff Pollock's AP students Common Core Ready

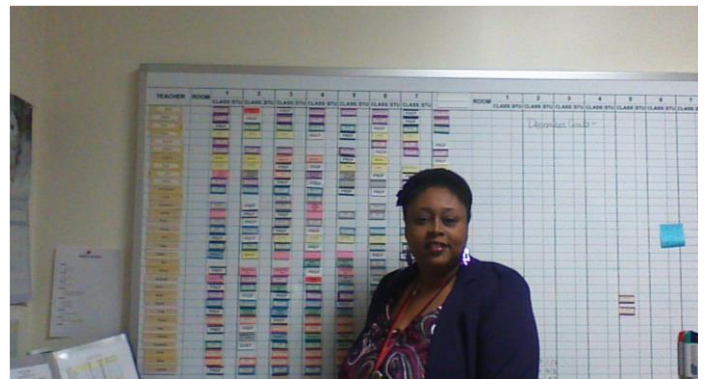
By Aaron Colación

If you've been in a staff meeting or professional development at Kennedy High School, then you've definitely heard the uniquely vocal and passionate voice of Mr. Jeff Pollock. Staff and students alike can hear Mr. Pollock's voice roaring its agitated, lion-roar throughout the corridors of Kennedy High. It echoes the devotion and frustration that surrounds the soul of a truly invested educator.

Those who choose to brave the confines of his classroom can see this most clearly in Mr. Pollock's recent push toward the **Common Core State Standards** curriculum. He recently had his AP U.S. History class working hard to prepare for the upcoming demands of the new **SBAC** format for statewide testing. Students were

AP and A-G

## Ms. Lama master scheduling for success



**Kennedy offers more courses meeting U.C. A-G requirements**

By Kimberly Guzman

This year Kennedy High School has more classes than last year. You may have noticed an increase in the amounts of classes students can take this year. For example, there are a couple of new teachers offering extra courses like Psychology, Computers, Band, Drums, and AP Biology. The new schedule has even allowed us to hire more teachers. Ms. Huerta is a new teacher here at Kennedy High School and she teaches Spanish. Dr. Moore is also a new teacher of Computer Technology for the IT Academy class. Ms. Lama's hope is that these new classes will help students earn more credits for graduation and for college—all of which fits into Kennedy's **WASC Action Plan**.

### COMMON CORE

## Jeff Pollock's AP students Common Core ready: students practice document-based questions (DBQ)



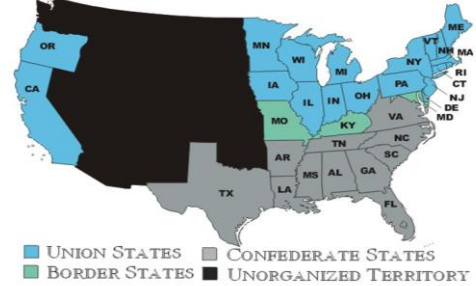
engaged while working at computer stations where they downloaded *PowerPoint* presentations filled with documents, maps, and other types of information.

“Students used those documents to show the relationship between the North and the South before the Civil War,” explained Mr. Pollock.

“Students were getting help to understand the sectionalism that existed before the war. They each received four DBQ questions used to cite in their essay using MLA format.”

Document 9

THE UNITED STATES, 1861



According to this map, what had eleven southern states done by the end of the month of June in 1861 ?

(1)

A document-based question (DBQ) given to students to interpret and cite in the Mr. Pollock's Common Core lesson.

Mr. Pollock's objective is always to prepare students for the intensive culture of academic and career pursuits at the post-secondary level. Students in his classes are consistently challenged to interpret primary source data—practicing the same **Common Core State Standard** skills that they will be expected to utilize in university courses and professional environments.

“[Pollock's] teaching style is personality driven. He really creates a community in his classroom with him as the band-leader. It's actually pretty advanced. It's social-learning based,” says Special Education teacher Ms. Binder.

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