

J A N U A R Y 1 2 , 2 0 1 8

Professional Development Day



2017-2018 Professional Development

For the 2017-2018 school year, we have been exploring two essential questions through our PD opportunities:

1. What could modern learning look like in the Mendon-Upton Regional School District?
2. How can we support each student's social and emotional learning competencies?

Our PD Days this year have introduced new ideas for how to reimagine school, while providing time for educators to explore some professional practice pathways such as: Genius Hour/20%, Connected Learning, Global Education, Personalized Learning, Maker Education, Design Thinking, Project-Based Learning, and Blended Learning. At our May PD day, our work will culminate with teachers sharing with one another and presenting areas where they have tried out a professional practice pathway.

In our curriculum mapping work, we are expanding our curriculum writing from Stage 2 common assessments to Stage 3, which incorporates our learning activities and our resources. Our work with professional practice pathways closely aligns to our Stage 3 mapping as we detail our learning activities we have the opportunity to reflect and revise our practices.

This year we also are continuing conversations and learning about how best to meet the needs of all our students through social-emotional supports, accommodations, RTI, co-teaching, and inclusion.

Thank you to the members of the PD Committee who helped to organize and identify the various needs for this professional development day.

Objectives

- Explore ways to increase student agency and personalization
- Review, revise, and develop Stage 1, 2, 3 of curriculum maps
- Develop interdisciplinary units
- Enhance questioning techniques to engage students in critical thinking

Overview of Topics

Grades PK-4 1:00-3:30

Professional Practice Pathway:
Student Agency and Personalization

Grade Level Collaboration

Grades 5-8 12:15-2:45

Questioning Techniques for Critical Thinking

Grades 9-12 11:45-2:15

Professional Practice Pathways

Curriculum and Assessment Collaboration

Interdisciplinary Work

High School

11:45-2:15

Department	Room	Plans
ABA Techs	At Memorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPI training or student-specific programming updates (1:00-3:00)
Art	117/142	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visiting Franklin Academy of the Arts Working with Carolann Tebbetts, Arts Department Chair at Franklin High School. The purpose of the visit is to see the Franklin Arts Academy in action.
Business	Offsite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in the DECA District Competition
Counseling	Counseling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCC curriculum Social Thinking curriculum/program development
English	220	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The department will use this time to finalize curriculum comments on Stage II and address our Stage III status, review and recommend changes to the Curriculum Guide, and set a date for a department (½ day) workshop to complete Stage III work Also, continue our discussion about student agency as we imagine what seniors will need to possess when they leave Nipmuc.
History	339	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APUSH curriculum work/ US I, US II, WEX II will be working on Atlas Stage 3. Department will be discussing interdisciplinary work/collaboration
Library/Media	Med. Cent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nonfiction titles and curriculum development
Math	314	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check in with department on stage 2 curriculum and discuss plan for other stages Collaborate on common courses/compare timelines & assessments Watch Podcast and discuss what the future math class looks like at Nipmuc in order to meet the needs of the 21st century learner leaving Nipmuc.
Music	Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music will be working on their department goal of district assessments K-12. We will be involving all the music teachers in the district
Nurse	Offsite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LSDO training (8-3) Medway High School Library, 88 Summer St.
P.E./Wellness	P.E. Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPR Training for Food Service staff
Science	314 140	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some of the department will be working on curriculum/assessment (Bio & Chem) Some will be working on interdisciplinary (Jen & Matt Merten) Project based learning for Astronomy and/or Child Growth, Physics/Engineering & Bio
Student Support Services	214	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to start looking at students with goals to determine the best/most appropriate setting in order to build schedules/placements/and co-teaching assignments Develop exit and entry criteria for Strategies Lab to insure students are properly serviced/identified
World Language	241	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate on creating/editing our oral assessments by language and level (and, when appropriate, expand assessment themes to integrate more cultural competencies/global learning concepts as outlined by ACTFL)

Notes:

- The last 10 minutes of the day will be set aside to complete the online PD surveys
- Lunch is on your own
- Curriculum mapping resources available at <https://mursdcurriculum.weebly.com/>

Middle School 12:15-2:45

Essential Question: How can critical thinking skills be enhanced through questioning and lesson redesign?

Participants: Majority of the educators will be participating in full-faculty professional development in the Teacher's Room. Plans for other groups are listed in the Notes section below.

Overview: As we delve more deeply into Stage 3 of curriculum mapping this year, we will explore how to engage students in critical thinking. Why? According to the [Foundation for Critical Thinking](#):

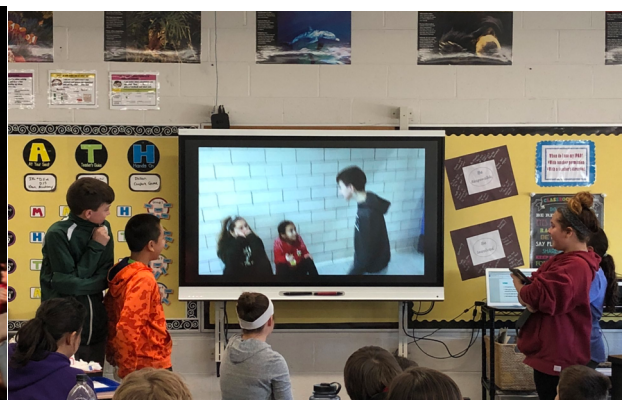
...much of our thinking, left to itself, is biased, distorted, partial, uninformed, or downright prejudiced. Yet, the quality of our life and that of what we produce, make, or build depends precisely on the quality of our thought. Shoddy thinking is costly, both in money and in quality of life. Excellence in thought, however, must be systematically cultivated.

During the PD day, we will look at how we can craft questions to cultivate complex thinking and learning within a unit and lesson.

Notes: Art educators will be visiting the Franklin Academy of the Arts. The nurse will attend a LSDO training at 8-3) Medway High School Library, 88 Summer St. Music educators will be working on their department goal of district assessments K-12. ABA Techs/STAR staff will be involved in CPI training or student-specific programming updates (1-3 at Memorial). PE/Health and Counseling will be working on Wellness Week collaboration.

Logistics:

- The last 10 minutes of the day will be set aside to complete the online PD surveys
- Lunch is on your own
- Curriculum mapping resources available at <https://mursdcurriculum.weebly.com/>
- Please come with a topic of an upcoming unit.
- Read the article [The Real Power of Questions](#) in advance.



Elementary 1:00-3:30 (At Memorial ES)

Essential Question: What role does student agency and personalization play in engaging students in modern learning?

Participants: Majority of the educators will be participating in a full-faculty professional development in the Memorial Elementary School media center. Other groups are listed in the note section.

Overview:

We will be exploring more in-depth the topic of student agency and ways that we can incorporate more student agency and personalization into our lessons. As part of the process, we will apply the TRUDACOT model to analyze some lessons for elements of student agency and personalization. Additionally, we will dive into our own lessons for potential changes and we will be viewing those changes from a 5-5-5 model: a change that takes 5 minutes, a change that takes 50 minutes (whole lesson), or a change that takes 5 days.

Note:

Music educators will be working on district K-12 music assessments. Art educators will be participating in an off-site visit to Franklin Academy of the Arts. ABA Techs/STAR will be participating in CPI Training and student-specific programming (1-3 at Memorial). OT/PT will participate in OT/PT sessions online. (Clough special educators will be working on an intervention data tracking system and alt portfolios). ELL teachers will be working on ELL curriculum writing. ASCA Anxiety and Stress Specialist online training (Clough counseling). PreK are working on updating PreK brochure.

Logistics:

- The last 10 minutes of the day will be set aside to complete the online PD surveys
- Lunch is on your own
- Each teacher should bring 1-2 lessons that they are currently teaching or will in the near future to use to analyze and make some changes



January 12, 2018
Professional Development
Aligned to the Following Strategic Goals

- Review, revise, and adapt the curriculum to support modern learning practices
- Engage in a community-wide exploration of the beliefs and practices that empower students with opportunities for modern learning.
- Review, develop and implement supports for all students to promote social, emotional, and academic success.



**Building a Strong Professional Learning Community
In MURSD**

Centers on the Following 3 Questions

1. What do we want each student to learn?

Focus on Curriculum

2. How will we know when each student has learned it?

Focus on Assessment

3. How will we respond when a student experiences difficulty in learning?

Focus on Instruction