

Report of the Superintendent

Office of Curriculum & Professional Learning

September 19, 2019



OCPL Curriculum Liaisons

Magdalena Ganas, Ed.D - Manager of Curriculum and Professional Learning



Heather Leger - Staff Assistant
Curriculum Liaison

Sharon Leary - AVID

Colleen Dyer - English Language Arts Liaison

Timmary Leary - Visual Arts Liaison

Jeff Glick - Elementary Science Coach
Engineering Liaison

Christine Lloyd - Science and

Michelle Huaman - World Language Liaison
Physical Education Liaison

Carol Manning - Health and

Colleen Kelly, Ed.D - History & Social Science/Library Liaison
Specialist

Janet Mathieu - Community Resource and AVID

Lisa Leach - Performing Arts Liaison

Vicki Roman - Math Liaison

“

*Supporting All
Learners*

”

Curriculum

AVID: Advancement Via Individual Determination

AVID Impacts: 4,261 WPS Students in 19 Schools



WPS AVID District Initiatives:

- Execute Superintendent's College and Career Initiatives through AVID
- Conduct Monthly AVID District/Site Meetings
- Maintain Budgets: WEDF, City of Worcester, Hanover Insurance Foundation
- Responsible for Annual AVID Certification Reports
- Maintain, Community College Partnerships: HC/WPI/MCPHS/Clark/AMC/WSU/AC
- Coordinate College/Generational Tutors Recruit, CORI, Train, Place, Tutor Observations, Evaluations and Recommendations
- Student College Fair
- AVID College Field Trips
- College Family Awareness Expo
- Purchase AVID Organizational Materials
- Model AVID Strategies in Classrooms
- Attend AVID Summer Institute/Philadelphia, PA
- Participate in AVID Center Pilot/Grant Initiatives
- Facilitate AVID Center/Worcester Professional Learning Trainings: AVID WICOR Strategies
- Oversee AVID Hanover/Dell Scholarships
- Manage Hanover Insurance Foundation Partnership
- AVID College Speaker Series
- Implementation of AVID System: Grades 4-12/19 Schools

Health and Physical Education

Health:

- Lifetime health focus
- Michigan Model for Health Curriculum Grade 4-HS implementation
- Skills based health lessons
- New Common Assessments
- Continual training for teachers
- Working with community agencies: DPH, The 84, SHINE, UMass Extension, Central MA Tobacco-Free Community Partnership, 365 Z, 15-40, NNLM NER and more to support students and teachers.



for all...
for a lifetime.

Physical Education

- Lifetime health focus
- IHT Heart rate monitor pilot, FG and WEM
- Fall and Spring Mini Olympics
- Friendship games: Grades K-2
- Bike safety: Gr 4
- "Heimlich Heroes": Gr. 2-3
- Postural Screening: Gr 5-9
- Hands only CPR: Grade 7-12
- Community Service in "HO CPR"
- "Jump Rope for Heart" AHA



Science

Our High School & Middle School curriculum received a face lift this year as we updated our textbooks in:

- Chemistry
- Biology
- Physics
- Grades 7 & 8

Our teachers were trained in the spring and High School is having a refresher on the online platform Sept. 17 & 18th.

In Elementary Science the Atlas database reflects all of the new curriculum changes. Each 3-6 grade level unit includes a teacher instructional video. 18 Schools are now using EiE (Engineering is Elementary) in grades 2-4 and 5th grade will be added this year to those schools.

District wide we are excited to begin preparing for STEM Week 10/21-10/25. Among other in school and afterschool activities, PD opportunities, and community events we will be partnering with PLTW to participate in their STEM Week Challenge.

Can you See Yourself in STEM?



History and Social Science New Frameworks With an Emphasis on CIVIC Engagement At Every Grade Level!

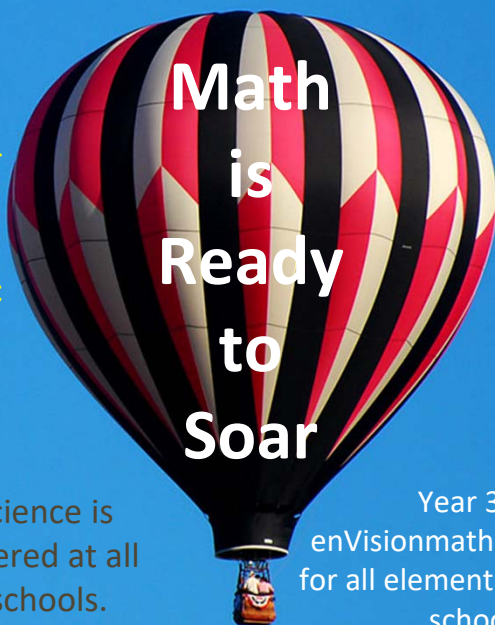
WPS - Year 2 Roll Out of
2018 History and Social Science Frameworks

- New resources & training to support grades 3, 4 and 8, Psychology, Sociology and Legal Aspects
- 8 New Electives
- 7 AP Courses - 41 Sections district wide
- Model UN in every secondary school
- High School Voter Registration
- Representative McGovern's Congressional Youth Council



Year 3 of Glencoe Math for Algebra & Geometry.

Math coaches were added at each of the four middle schools to support content-specific teaching and learning.



Computer Science is now being offered at all of our high schools.

Year 3 of enVisionmath2.0 for all elementary schools.

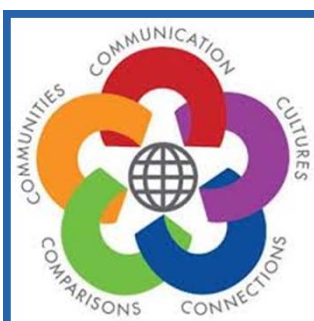
Big Ideas was adopted as the district's new middle school math program. All 7th and 8th grade math teachers received training on August 23 and are implementing new ideas and technology in their classrooms.



Moving Towards Proficiency

World Languages

Celebrating the many languages and cultures of our community



Initiatives:

- Focus on building students' proficiency levels (60-90% class time in the target language)
- Assessments to measure growth in speaking and writing at each level
- Bilingual Professionals Panel at high schools
- Language Ambassadors HS/ES language lessons
- Dual Lang up to grade 8
- Seal of Biliteracy

English Language Arts

Elementary schools
Year 2 Implementation
Read Side by Side & Fountas & Pinnell!

Fountas and Pinnell

Teachers in grades K-2 received training in:

- Shared Reading
- Interactive Read-Aloud
- Mini-lessons
- Phonics and Word Study
- Guided Reading

Read Side By Side

A Reader's Workshop model which instills a love of reading in our students through exposure and analysis of wonderful books.

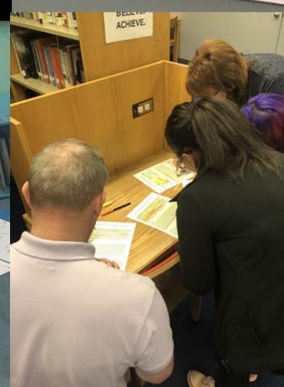
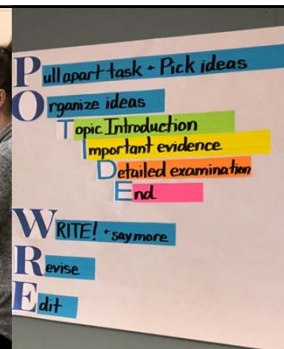
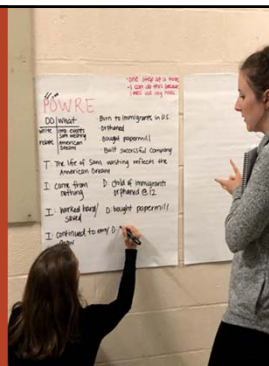


SRSD

Self Regulated Strategy Development

#WECANDOIT

- Year 1 Implementation Middle and High School teachers received training in May and September
- Year 2 implementation for Elementary Schools
- Critical and Close Reading at the forefront
- Collaborative quadrant meetings for all grade 3-6 elementary teachers to unify practice in writing instruction



Visual Arts Department

Addressing the variability of ALL learners!



Universal Design for Learning PLC: Art of Variability

- 4th Year of UDL Implementation with VSA
- Webinar with CAST: *Stories from the Field: Visual Arts & UDL*
- 4 Presentations at Summer Symposium: *Empowering All Learners*, Harvard University
- 2 Teachers named to National UDL CAST Faculty
- New incoming cohort of teachers

Department News:

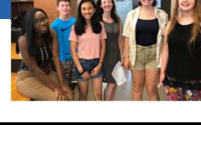
- New MA Framework released September 6, 2019
- 5 WPS Installations at *Art in the Park*
- 2 Art Teachers recognized by Massachusetts Art Education Association: Art Teacher of the YEAR
- 2nd year of Arts Festival at Worcester Airport: 800 works of art, Senior in the Arts Awards ceremony, Meet the Artists Night
- New Community Partnership: After school Program with ArtsReach
- 6th year of Staff Show at Sprinkler Factory in March 2020

Performing Arts

Highlights

We have new Frameworks!

- All City Summer Band and Orchestra celebrated its' 10th year!
- Courses and offerings will be updated for new frameworks
- New! Goddard & Grafton Street School instrumental lessons - now 26 schools
- Burncoat Dance-Received Awards at UDA Camp, going to Nationals in Florida.
- \$19K for after school instrumental programs from MCC/Ser Hacer Grant
- HS theater courses re-designed and specialized, including Playwriting, Technical Theater, Theater History
- Dance courses available for students outside the magnet at BMS/BHS
- Developing STEAM courses for middle school
- Invited to apply to the Klarman Foundation Instrument Program
- David Twiss nominated Eastern Massachusetts Association Of Community Theater (EMACT) DASH Awards



- Department head as content coach
- Monthly district meetings
- School based individualized support
- WPS Department Head Website

Supporting Department Heads

Professional Learning

Guiding Documents for All

Atlas

- DESE Frameworks
- Scope & sequence for transparency, accountability, & collaboration
- Resources
- Engaging activities
- Online platform for ease of use
- Atlas Week- 9/23-9/27

Look- Fors

- DESE Observation Guides
- Expectations
- Instruction
- Assessment
- Links frameworks & practice standards

Practice Standards

- DESE K-12
- Aligns practice to content
- Practices educators should seek to develop in their students
- WPS/OCPL guiding document on practices

Professional Learning Opportunities for every school and every teacher



- Visual Thinking Strategies
- Faculty & Department Meeting Workshops
- Atlas Workshops & Support
- Data/Item Analysis & Data Driven Instruction
- Co-Planning
- Curriculum Lens for Evaluation & Observation



- Modeling Lessons
- OCPL Website/ Newsletters
- Content Specific PLC Support
- Effective Use of Technology to Support Curriculum
- Advanced Placement Resources
- Content Area “Look Fors”
- Learning Walks
- Focused Instructional Coaches

- **UDL Visual Arts PLC**
- **DESE Inclusive Practice Academy**
- **Katie Novak Workshop**
- **District Workshops**
- **Series of Sessions at Challenge and Reach: Addressing Engagement and Variability in the Classroom**

Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

Community Partnerships

- Artist Convening at the Worcester Pop-up
- Worcester Regional Middle School Science and Engineering Fair at WPI
- WEDF - LEAP Trips for every grade level
- AVID Hanover Insurance Foundation & 200/Local College AVID Tutors
- Worcester Police- Bike Safety

DESE Partnerships

- Arts Ambassadors Program
- Curriculum Network Meetings

Family Partnerships

- AVID Student/Family Academic Contract
- Annual AVID Family/Student College Expo
- AVID Family Awareness Events/19 Schools
- AP Informational Nights
- Department of Public Health Informational Updates

Advanced Placement



2,580

The number of AP exams that WPS students completed in May 2019

**566 AP Exams were
taken by AVID
students in 2018-19**

**5 AP Capstone Diplomas
4 AP Certificates
31 AP Courses Offered
102 AP Teachers
54 teachers attended AP training
in 2018-2019**

Focused Instructional Coaches

“

The most valuable resource teachers
have is each other.

Without collaboration, our growth
is limited to our own perspectives.

- R. Meehan

”

Coaches:



Curriculum Support

Use of Atlas, Look-fors, and Practice standards to support lesson planning

WPS Coaches Website



Pedagogy

Encouraging meaningful classroom interactions

Providing feedback

Serving as a thought partner



Book Study

The Art of Coaching by Elena Aguilar
Establishing a collaborative definition of coaching for WPS



PLC Support

Facilitating the meetings

Offering guidance, setting expectations

Direction on review of student work



Peer Support

Visits to schools to observe practice

Providing feedback



Engagement

UDL Training

High Quality Professional Learning - guiding document

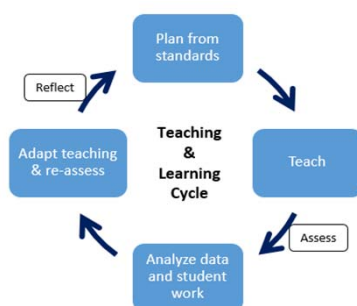
Professional Learning Communities (PLC's)

OCPL & PLC's

Practice based professional Learning

- meets regularly
- shares expertise
- works collaboratively to improve teaching skills & the academic performance of students
- WPS Guiding documents

Teaching & Learning Cycle



Liaison Support

- School based support as needed
- Mini workshops
- Review of data

Thank You

@OCPLwps

www.worcesterschools.org

ganiasm@worcesterschools.net

