

# Curriculum News

## RSU No. 67

A newsletter for teachers, staff, and RSU No. 67 board about curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

Welcome back. This curriculum newsletter is a way to keep everyone informed of information regarding curriculum, instruction, and assessment. I will do my best to be release one every month with updates and resources. Hope you have a great day.

### **District Committees:**

The district committee schedule and dates can be found [here](#). There are still some openings in the district committees. If you are interested in participating, please let your building administrator know.

### **Learning A to Z (Gr. K-6):**

We have a subscription to Learning A to Z for teachers in grades K-6 who teach reading and/or science. I will be sending out a reminder with usernames and passwords for you to be able to access your account. I can also meet with your team to provide you with information on how to access those amazing resources.

### **Taxonomy Resources:**

A reminder that we use the [Marzano taxonomy](#) in our curriculum model. Please be sure to pay attention to the taxonomy level of the learning target when planning lessons and collecting evidence of mastery of that target. Also, here is a [great resource to use that includes terms, question stems, and processes at each level of the taxonomy](#).

### **Service Learning:**

Remember if you have an idea for a service learning project, there are funds for each building to support those projects. Check out our [shortened application](#) to apply for use of those funds. They are issued on a first come basis.

**Assessment Timeline:** Here is the [link](#) to the timeline for all assessments given in the district. Please note it is 3 pages-- so you should look at the one that corresponds to your building. Here are the [directions for STAR testing](#) as well. Remember you have access to all usernames and passwords for learners who are in your grades or classes. Those lists will be completed by Friday to allow you to be ready for the testing window.

**Mentors/Mentees:** The district plan and any forms you may need can be found [here](#). We will have our mentor/mentee meet and greet on Wednesday, Aug. 28 at 3 in the MJHS library for all those mentors and mentees who are working together this year. A reminder that the mandatory district mentor meetings for those who are currently mentoring are on 10/17, 12/9, 2/27, and 5/21. This year those meetings will be focused on creating a binder of resources for new teachers based on each building. If you are a mentor, but do not have a mentee this year, you are still welcome to attend. The first meeting topic for the digital binder will be "Things to Know for the Beginning of the Year." If you are interested in being trained as a mentor, there is a workshop being offered on September 16 and 17 in Hampden. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

**Teacher Evaluation Information:** The teacher evaluation plan can be found [here](#). The plan has been revised and adopted this summer. We will be sharing some of the major changes at each building in September. We are continuing to use the Focused Marzano model and iObservation for teacher evaluation. If you created a plan last year and are on a 3 year plan, you will need to continue to collect evidence for your goals. Remember to show evidence of applying, you will need to have student work samples. If you are a probationary teacher (first 3 years in our district), you will need to craft a plan. Those plans will need to be developed by October 15.

We will offer a series of workshops on September 26, October 2, December 4, January 23, and March 19 for anyone who needs support in this process. The educator effectiveness committee will continue to review the plan as we implement and make adjustments based on your feedback. If you would like to be on the committee, please let us know. By law it needs to be comprised of a majority of teachers, we would love to have you participate.

**PD Opportunities:** Through our partnerships with PREP, MCCL, and Northwoods Partnership, there will be many upcoming opportunities for professional development. I will use this newsletter to share the dates and information. Please be sure to be selective in what you choose to protect instructional time, as well as workshops that align directly with your growth goals in your evaluation plan. Be on the lookout for future opportunities.

### **Trauma-Informed/Social Emotional PD Opportunities:**

We will be offering a series of book studies and some other supports throughout this year for those who would like to learn more about strategies to use with students in your classroom. Keep an eye out. If you would like to be on the committee to discuss ideas and implement those ideas with all staff on a monthly basis, let me know. We will be meeting monthly. The [curriculum site](#) has a folder already with resources available.