Curriculum News

RSU No. 67

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

Available Grants:

Maine Bicentennial Grants for Community and School Innovative Educator Grant

Website Resources:

www.nationalhistoryclub.org
Core Connections Magazine
Count Me In Attendance Resources
GeoChallenge
Free Math Professional
Development Webinars

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.

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. Please be sure to familiarize yourself with the purchasing protocol once you receive approval.

Mentors/Mentees: A reminder our first mentor support group meeting is October 17 at 3 in the DO conference room. All materials for mentoring can be found at this link.

Book Studies/Site-based PD: Be on the lookout for more opportunities to participate in book studies. Also, if you would like to facilitate a PD session on an area of strength, let me know.

Assessment Timeline: Please be sure to check out the <u>assessment</u> timeline for dates of testing at each school. You will also be reminded of the purpose for each type of testing. Earlier this month the state issued a newsbrief informing schools that the essay portion of the grade 3-8 MEA would not be given this year. In addition, the scores from last year will not be calculated in our district and student data. For more information, you can check out the newsbrief at this link.

Teacher Evaluation Information: If you have not had a chance to read the updated evaluation plan, it can be found at this site. A reminder that only probationary teachers, those in their first three years at RSU 67, will need to create a Student Learning Objective (SLO) this year. All other teachers will use those from previous years as part of their final summative score if it is calculated prior to September of 2021. If you would like support with creating growth goals, determining evidence, or any other component of your teacher evaluation plan please plan on attending one of our help sessions. Those who attended the first one provided positive feedback on the time to complete tasks and get support for knowing what was needed. Our next one is October 2 in the EPB library from 3-4. Contact hours are provided. There are three more sessions after scheduled from 3-4 as well. They are December 4, January 23, and March 19.

Curriculum Documents: Please be sure to use the most up-to-date curriculum documents. They can be found at this link. Some documents were updated to reflect work done this past school year. If you notice any discrepancies or errors, please let me know. I try to keep these as current as possible. I am still cross checking Powerschool and Empower to these documents. The state did adopt new science and social studies standards last year. Over the summer teachers worked on the math, ELA, and career educational standards. They are currently in the department review process.

PD Opportunities:

With our PREP partnership you have access to a variety of professional development opportunities. Please <u>check out this link</u> for the calendar of events for this year. If you would like to participate in a session, please be sure to fill out a workshop request form and let me know. I will register you directly once it has been approved.

Trauma-Informed/Social Emotional PD Opportunities: We have a variety of options for support in this area. There are webinars scheduled with author Heather Forbes from 4-6 in the MA library. The remaining dates are October 7, October 28, and November 4. Contact hours will be provided to those who attend. The trauma-informed committee will be sharing articles/videos on a regular basis.

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