



GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

195 Federal Street, Suite 100, Greenfield, MA 01301

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The Greenfield Public School District is a place where every child is supported on their path to success.

To: Dr. Christine DeBarge, Superintendent

From: Karin E. Patenaude, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

Date: November 8, 2023

RE: Assistant Superintendent Update

1. 11.7.2023 Professional Development:

Instructional Strategy #1 - Think/Write/Pair/Share: The district continues to support teachers in the use and implementation of Think/Write/Pair/Share. On November 7, our PD partners with the Teaching Lab led sessions on strengthening student discourse through this strategy with K-12 teachers. Additionally, the districtwide ILTs will meet this week and review the aggregate data from Learning Walkthrough #2 which took place last week on Oct. 31 which will drive the ongoing professional development provided by the ILTs at upcoming faculty meetings.

Investigating History - EduCurious, the PD partner for the district's launch of Investigating History curriculum resources in grades 5-7, was on site yesterday. They continued to work with our teachers at the middle school in the implementation of this new curriculum resource.

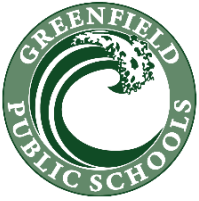
Naviance - The guidance staff and Associate Principals at GHS and GMS engaged in a day-long exploration of the Naviance Curriculum. An in-depth review of how to best support students' college and career exploration was the focus of the day.

Meeting Student Trauma w/ an Asset-Based Approach: Districtwide Instructional Assistants engaged in professional development with Dr. Lourdes Alvarez-Ortiz and Gabrielli LaChiara on focusing on students' inherent strengths to lead to better outcomes.

AEL: The teachers at AEL engaged in a day-long professional development on Guided Play Strategies and curriculum connections with Merril Micelli, the Director. This PD has been on-going since the beginning of the school year.

Other: There were also other sessions happening yesterday in the following areas: CPI training, SEL Second-Step, Strengthening School Nurse and Family Relationships, Curriculum Mapping, and Special Education.

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2. **Grants:**

Civics: The guide around this year's Civics grant was to engage students in as many culturally relevant civics learning experiences where students can highlight and promote their academic achievement, cultural competence, and sociopolitical awareness. The history department at GHS has done an exceptional job already this year by providing students with field trip opportunities to Lexington, Concord, and Charlestown, MA with other experiences planned for the coming months. The high school has also been able to get an online subscription for at least 50 users to the local Recorder newspaper to use as a resource in their coursework.

3. **Mentor Program:**

Unit C: The Unit C Instructional Assistant mentor program is in its first year of inception. The four mentors districtwide have been engaging bi-monthly with their mentees and providing the guidance and expertise needed for our new hires.

Thank you,

Karin E. Patenaude, Assistant Superintendent