

Innovative Information

October 2024

Goal Update



At NSES

- Staff was presented with a rough draft of the MTSS model and asked to give feedback. This is an important part in streamlining the SAT process and honing in on students who may need intervention.
- Teachers continue to implement Bridges in Mathematics. Grade levels have been meeting with Deanna and Terry to plan over the last few weeks.

At Wheeler

- Departments continue to adapt school-wide rubrics to fit their assessments. The Science Department is experimenting with ways to increase the quality of student reflection. For an example [click here.](#)
- MS teams continue to create mini interdisciplinary units during the Flex block. 8th grade is preparing for their Boston Trip by diving into the American Revolution. 7th graders have been exploring ancient Greece. WINN time during Flex has provided students with skills-based practice and support as they develop executive functioning skills.



We are happy to announce that all staff now has premium access to Diffit! Diffit is an AI tool that can develop worksheets, lesson activities, questions based on videos and more!. This resource is great for producing non-fiction text as well as adjusting reading levels. Stay tuned for PD sessions. For a building specific link contact Kim Haggerty.

PD Update

- Interventionists in both buildings will be attending IXL Live! They will bring back important information and provide training for teachers!
- Continue to use the Google Form to apply for PD. The PDEC PD Subcommittee will meet monthly to review requests. Take a look [at this document](#) for specific PD process instructions. If you have any questions please contact Kim Haggerty.

Instructional Strategy Round-up

Lower Elementary: [Pumpkin Math Activities](#)

Upper Elementary: [The Progression of Talk](#)

MS/HS: [Collaborative Note-taking](#)

MS/HS: [Chalk Talk](#)

Innovative Spotlight

9th grade students in Katie McGuire's English class previewed *Of Mice and Men* by participating in an interactive gallery walk. Students viewed images related to the text displayed around the classroom. They discussed their thoughts and generated questions in small groups. After recording their responses they analyzed video and text to build on their knowledge of the historical context and setting.

New Teacher Spotlight: Abbie Merchant



Meet North Stonington Elementary's new sixth grade science teacher, Abbie Merchant. Abbie recently graduated from Sacred Heart University.

She loves the small town atmosphere in North Stonington. She says it "just feels right". Abbie is a member of the Connecticut Interstate Fire Crew and loves to travel, especially to national parks.

Welcome Abbie!

Curriculum Corner

District PE and Wheeler Music rocked their curriculum days last month!

Curriculum is posted to our website as documents are reviewed according to our curriculum organization chart. October work: 8-9 ELA and Business.