

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES UPDATE

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NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS USD 373

Celebrations and Successes!



Recently I attended a meeting with a faculty member who made the comment, "I've never worked in a district where I had so much access to professional development and learning." This was an affirming comment as we reflect on celebrations and successes of the many learning events that have taken place at the *district level*. As we continue to immerse ourselves in a model of inquiry and problem-based learning combined with differentiated instruction and the application of high correlation strategies, we need to continue to feed our learning. To learn from each other and from the knowledge of experts. The evidence is very clear, student learning is most heavily impacted by teacher knowledge. Here are some celebrations of our learners. We celebrate with the many individuals who have participated in professional learning events and implemented into practice. Congratulations and thank you for your hard work!

Animated Literacy Training - Autumn Altum, Ashley Best, Abby Biles, Mira Ehrlich, Kalli Fitzgerald, Jamie Graber, Lisa Grace and Traci Miller.

Cognitive Coaching - Loretta Beal, Kathy Becker, Ashley Best, Jonni Brown, Marcia Friesen, Dorothy Harder, Mona Heinze, Shawna McCartney, Lisa Otter, Cindy Penner, Keith Penner, John Pescitelli, Amy Regier, Julie Robinson, Autumn Altum, Angela Black, Susan Crough, Janel Fenster, Christina Gonzalez, Lisa Grace, Susan Hamilton, Jennifer Horn, Cheryl Loeffler, Megan Nage, Johanna Niehage, Kendra Pugh, Nancey Schlup, Naomi Wiebe

KSDE MTSS Conference - Natise Vogt, Jan Plummer, Arthur Whillock, Chelie Nelson, Philip Stutey, Vicki Rivero, Ken Rickard, Deb Helberg, Nan Bergen, Greg Lehr, Reagan Seidl, Janis Whitfield, Kevin Neuenswander, Cathy Woodward

Linking Assessment to Instruction - Jan Plummer, Kevin Neuenswander, Janet Weaver, Sharon Skidmore, Kathi Zohn, Jill Graber, Jill Lachenmayr, Kenna Graber, Adrian Howie

T and L Conference - Margie Knupp, Ronda Limon, Mollie Budde, Chris Headrick, John Hoffman, Adrian Howie, Greg Lehr, Brenda Thompson

KSDE K-5 Reading Conference - George Leary, Mollie Sultenfuss, Deb Helberg, Heidi Johnson, Barb Pownell, Chris Hasan, Greg Lehr, Tom Hatch

National Staff Development Conference - Jan Neufeld, Lisa Moore, Jill Lachenmayr, Vicki Adame, Vicki Rivero, Susan Crough, Ann Hoopes

Reading Recovery Teacher Leader Conference - Marsha Schmidt, Kent Rychner, Pam Trussell

Text Structure Literacy Training - Julie Robinson, Marci Brennehan, Beth Unruh, Jennifer Kelsey, Kim George, Maureen Fast, Gail Pryce, Debra Miller-Dealy, Kathy Murphy, Derrick Richling, Carol Budde, Keith Penner, Sara Washburn, Megan Weaver, Susan Hamilton, Adrian Howie, Kathy Kaufman, Susan Hamilton, Kendra Pugh, Tarrah Geraci, Kathi Bogner, Carol Goering, Melissa Sullivan, Esther Becker, June Entz, Denise Siemens, Karen Loucks, Deb Bartel, Trisha Fast

Kansas Reading Recovery Conference - Naomi Wiebe, Laura Pyle, Marsha Schmidt, Beaty Robb, Deb Unruh, Ellen Regier, Cindy Nicholson, Kent Rychner, Pam Trussell, Renee Wiens-Evangelista, Leah Baker, Rhonda Roux, Diane Unruh, Ronna Hammel, Tobie Loewen, Shawna McCartney, Jill Lachenmayr, Jan Plummer, Kevin Neuenswander

MTSS and DRA2 Training - Mona Heinze, LuAnn Zook, Mary Beck, Amber Warsnak, Barb Pownell, Molly Sultenfuss, Jackie Jordan, Rebecca Kolden, Kathy Becker, Jennifer Milton, Mary Bradshaw, Beaty Robb, Cathy Woodward, Cindy Nicholson, Jill Graber, Jo Dove, Kathi Zohn, Kenna Graber, Renee Wiens-Evangelista, Rochelle Glover, Roger Erickson, Sarah Livesay, Sharon Skidmore

ELL McRel Workshop - Mary Bradshaw, Anthony Cuellar, Lucy Bontrager, Cheryl Nottingham, Esther Becker

Creating Fluent Readers - Karen McCabe-Juhnke, Amber Celestin, Molly Budde, Kathi Bogner, Deb Bartel, Kenna Graber, Kevin Neuenswander, Arthur Whillock, Jill Lachenmayr, Sharon Skidmore, Kathi Zohn, Jill Graber, Shelli Elliott

Alan November - Barb Bunting, Carol Sue Stayrook-Hobbs, Jan Neufeld, Jill Lachenmayr

Elementary Math adoption workshops - K-5th grade faculty

TESOL Conference - Mary Bradshaw

OELA Summit VI: Preparing ELLs to Succeed in the 21st Century - Mary Bradshaw

Preparacion Inservice, July 2010 University of Arizona National Center for Interpretation - Crystal Sanhuesa

Learning Forward Conference (NSDC) - Jill Lachenmayr, Jan Neufeld, Mike Clagg, Nick Sisson, Lisa Moore, Rochelle Glover, Eunice Nickel, Vicki Rivero, Kurt Herrel, Scott Stuhlatz

ESOL Certification - Katie Base, Ashley Beardslee

AND PLEASE FORGIVE US IF WE MISSED ANYONE.....Let us know!

HAPPY NEW YEAR HAPPY NEW YEAR HAPPY NEW YEAR HAPPY NEW YEAR

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The Contradiction...

I believe that all of us want to continue to learn and grow professionally. We want to refine our skills, become better at what we do and be effective. Our goal is to help students be the very best, in the classroom and in life. It's our passion and why we became educators in the first place. So if we all want to continue to grow and learn, why the conflict about professional learning? What's missing? How do schools and teams make sure that the professional activities they engage in are meaningful and relevant? Are we engaging in the right type of professional learning in schools?

It's a new year, a time of reflection and making resolutions. We are a very capable group of educators. Let's resolve to make professional learning meaningful and relevant. Take it off the naughty word list. So how do we begin? Let's start with taking a look at twelve qualities that make professional learning powerful. It's a journey and we'll get there together!

Twelve Qualities of Powerful Professional Learning

1. Powerful professional learning arises from and returns benefits to the real world of teaching and learning.
2. Powerful professional learning requires collecting, analyzing, and presenting real data from student work and teacher practice.
3. Powerful professional learning begins with what will really help young people learn, engages those involved in helping them learn, and has an effect on the classrooms where those students and their teachers learn.
4. Powerful professional learning results in application in the classroom.
5. Powerful professional learning experiences may not formally end; they may simply evolve into other forms as participants raise more questions or decide to try another strategy.
6. Powerful professional learning honors the professionalism, expertise, experiences and skills of staff.
7. Powerful professional learning is content rich because the content is the school or district itself, its staff, its learners.
8. Powerful professional learning is collaborative or has collaborative aspects to it.
9. Powerful professional learning establishes a culture of quality.
10. Powerful professional learning results in automatic buy-in because it uses the talent within.
11. Powerful professional learning slows the pace of schooling, providing time for the inquiry and reflection that promote learning and application.
12. Powerful professional learning designs provide the activities that make professional learning communities more than just a structure.

Powerful Designs for Professional Learning (Easton, 2008)

NSDC login info: 128156 password: learning (Use login to peruse website as often as you wish.) www.nsd.org

ASCD login info: 1541602 password: npsusd373 (Use login to peruse website as often as you wish.) www.acsd.org

Reading A-Z: <http://www.readinga-z.com/> Building accounts are available through your principal or coach.

Rubicon/Atlas curriculum mapping site: <http://newtonusd373.rubiconatlas.org/c/pi/v.php/Atlas/Authentication/View/Login>

Learning Forward Kansas (KSDC) — www.ksdc.us