

Date: December 13, 2022
To: LPSD School Board Members
From: Kate Cornell and Nicole Metzgar
Re: December Curriculum Report

Professional Development

Power Hour Tuesday, November 15: November's Power Hour focused on giving teachers time to work on their mandatory training. These trainings are done yearly in order to make sure all are aware of professional responsibilities in regards to things like bloodborne pathogens, mandatory reporting, etc.

Late Start Monday, December 5: Late Start this month focused on PowerSchool updating for end of quarter reports, completing mandatory training. Ms. Marjorie Waggoner also had a meeting with the SPED team.

Power Hour Tuesday, December 20: Professional time for end of semester activities. No formal LPSD PD training.

January 2023 Tutor and Student Teacher Training, Jan. 6 -Jan.9: Our partners, Chugach School District, have once again opened their doors for us to use their Voyage to Excellent facility to room, board, and train tutors and student teachers new to LPSD for the Spring semester. New personnel will fly in on January 6th, train in the SBS system on the 7th, shop on the 8th, and fly out to sites on January 9th. As of now, we will have 5 student teachers and 5 tutors in our schools for spring semester.

2023 RTI/MTSS Effective Instruction Conference Jan 21, and 28-29: Over the past 2 years, this was a remote conference that many LPSD staff could zoom in to attend from their different sites. Because the conference is going back to in-person and face-to-face this year, LPSD is excited to be sending 20 teachers to attend the in-person conference Jan 28-29 and the virtual conference on Jan 21 will be made available to any teacher, principal, tutor, or classified staff that is interested in attending.

Here is some information about the conference: *Supporting ALL Kids: The multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) framework is designed to help schools identify struggling students early and intervene quickly. MTSS supports all students with excellent core instruction, targeted, research-based interventions, and ongoing data collection. The goal is for students to receive timely intervention to help them meet learning targets, instead of waiting for them to receive failing grades.*

More information about this annual conference can be found here: [2023 RTI/MTSS Effective Instruction Conference](#)

Curriculum

CTE for HS Credit: Kate, Cassie and Nicole were able to meet with Zach Stenson, Justin Zimin and Misa Webber to strengthen the LPSD and CTE for HS Credit partnership. BBRCTE is continually monitoring and adjusting their courses to best support students and a rigorous learning experience. We appreciate the ongoing conversations between LPSD and BBRCTE that keep this partnership up to date and progressive. LPSD will continue to offer .50 credits for the 1 week intensive courses students attend in person. Feedback from students, staff and communities have been overwhelmingly positive.

LPSD will also be awarding HS credit for virtual courses sponsored and approved by BBRCTE:

- 2 week Summer Independent Study **Commercial Fishing**– 1.0 credits
- Self-Paced Virtual **Driver's License Prep**– .25 credits
- Semester Long Virtual **Small Engine Repair**–.50 credits
- Semester Long Self-Paced Virtual **NCCER Core**– .50 credits
- Semester Long Self-Paced Virtual **Ground School**–.50 credits
- Semester Long Self-Paced Virtual **Intro to Aviation**–.50 credits
- Semester Long Self-Paced Virtual **NCCER Electrical I**–.50 credits
- Half-Semester Virtual **Intro to Maritime**–.25 credits
- In person **Board of Fish/Online Cultural Arts Classes**—in progress & TBD

Culturally Responsive Teaching: “Culture in the Classroom, Standards, Indicators, and Evidence for Evaluating Culturally Responsive Teaching” published by Southeast Regional Resource Center (SERRC) Alaska’s Educational Resource Center was sent out to all teachers this fall as a personal tool to self reflect on their culturally responsive teaching practices. Next semester, we are looking forward to using late start Monday PD time to explore unique ways teachers around LPSD are implementing these cultural standards. This tool is a great resource to use when discussing Culturally Responsive Teaching, and we wanted to share it with you for your records and reference. (See attachment).

Science Curriculum Update: Teachers are working on moving through standards and using the plethora of materials that were sent out for labs at the start of the year. There are always growing pains when starting a new curriculum, and we are so grateful to have the staff that we have who are providing constant feedback on how we can provide more and better PD as the year moves along.

Technology and Social Studies Standards: During October Inservice, teachers had an open conversation about technology and social studies standards to gather information about the strengths and weaknesses of teaching and evaluating the standards. There were a range of thoughts regarding social studies, but the bottom line is that teachers want more depth and less breadth when it comes to the standards. One thought was to look at teaching it thematically instead of chronologically, or keep it chronological, but add themes to keep the depth. It will be interesting to see where the conversation goes in the coming months.

Distance Classes

Mr. Meneskie and Mrs. Nikolaus continue to prove that they are a dynamic online teaching team. Teaching and learning online is challenging at best, and our students are proving that they are up to the challenge. On the whole, their scores on their homework have been higher than last year, more assignments have been turned in than last year, and participation in class whether reading, answering questions, or asking questions is higher than last year as well. Thank you for supporting our online program and the work that goes into providing a stellar education for our students!

As always, feel free to contact Kate Cornell at kcornell@lpsd.com (907.571.7020), or Nicole Metzgar at nmetzgar@lpsd.com (907.781.3201). Thanks for all you do!