



Lincolnshire-Prairie View School District 103

Memo

To: Board of Education
From: Dr. Katie Reynolds
Dr. Nina Nusbaum
CC: Dr. Scott Warren
Date: November 13, 2025
Re: Curriculum and Instruction Executive Summary

Professional Development Committee

The Professional Development Committee met on November 6, 2025. During the meeting, the team reflected on the October Institute Day, which focused on executive functioning. Overall, the session was well received, with staff highlighting several strengths. Teachers appreciated the guided notes sheet, which supported engagement and organization, as well as the practical strategies that could be implemented immediately in classrooms. The session was described as engaging, applicable to all staff, and led by a knowledgeable practitioner who made the content relevant through clear visuals and examples. Areas for improvement included incorporating more movement breaks and providing additional time for application and hands-on practice. To continue supporting the implementation of executive functioning strategies, the teachers recommended creating a series of follow-up emails featuring tips and resources for staff. In addition, a “Shout-Out” poster will be displayed, where teachers and principals can share photos and examples of classroom strategies. The group also reviewed plans for the January Institute Day and offered suggestions to enhance the Amplify presentation, making it more meaningful and valuable for participants. Finally, I provided an update on the next phase of the district’s strategic plan development process, outlining upcoming steps and opportunities for staff engagement.

New Staff Seminar

The second New Staff Seminar was held on October 29. These after-school sessions are designed to support and guide new educators while aligning with the district’s vision of being *Leaders in Learning*. The focus of this seminar was on safety and the habits that define high-quality teaching practices. Craig Chatham shared information on the Standard Response Protocol, and Nina Nusbaum presented on *Frameworks for Effective Teaching*. The frameworks reviewed included Understanding by Design, Brain-Targeted Teaching, Universal Design for Learning, and Building Thinking Classrooms.

Stevenson's English Language Arts Courses

Starting next year, incoming 9th graders will choose from four theme-based English 9 classes. All four courses are equally rigorous and supportive. What differs is the thematic lens through which students explore reading, writing, and speaking & listening. This change promotes choice and engagement, fosters student efficacy, and increases access to rigorous coursework for all students. All four classes meet the same skills with equal rigor. The difference is the theme through which students explore content.