

Pleasantdale School District 107

Administrative Office • 7450 S. Wolf Road • Burr Ridge, IL 60527
(708) 784-2013 • Fax: (708) 246-0161 • www.d107.org

The goals of District 107 summer work this year were to support our Strategic Blueprint goals and action steps by streamlining offerings that divided work into two categories: professional development and summer projects. Through thoughtful planning and teacher input, we are able to accomplish these two goals and remain under budget.

Our professional development opportunities this summer truly capture our strategic goal of building human capital by fostering personalized learning for each staff member. The weekly Tech Cafe sessions, back this summer by popular demand and led by Steve Braband and Rikki Steinmetz, allowed teachers to work at their own pace and comfort level to learn how to use and implement various technology tools for instruction. Karyn Lisowski created a new online learning course on growth mindset and technology tools that gives teachers the opportunity to engage in professional learning remotely and with a flexible timeframe.

A major component of this summer's professional development focused on ensuring smooth implementation of the new K-5 math curriculum and the start of successful math pilots at the middle school during the 17-18 school year. Elementary math teachers participated in a two-day training for the new Bridges curriculum in July. Our trainer from The Math Learning Center recognized that we had teachers with varying levels of experience with Bridges, ranging from those who participated in the pilot to those who were new to Bridges, so she was able to differentiate the work completed over the two days. The same trainer will be back to continue our work in adopting Bridges for our institute day on October 10th to ensure consistency and continuity of learning. Middle school math teachers also completed two days of work to prepare for the upcoming math program pilots. Topics included learning about the tool that will be used to evaluate all of the programs, creating a timeline for managing the pilots, and learning about each program in detail. Again, this work was differentiated to account for the needs of the teachers at each grade level and the program(s) they will be piloting.

Summer project work provided teachers the chance to work collaboratively on creating products that can be used in classrooms to support various curricular areas. Teams of teachers worked on technology documents to support our 1:1 initiative, storylines and units aligned to the Next Generation Science standards, creation of a makerspace curriculum in art, revisions and updates to the middle school health, extended resource, and Spanish curriculum, and planning for the implementation of new supports in ELL.

A breakdown of the budget to date is as follows:

	Professional Development Costs	Project Costs
Budgeted	\$17,000	\$21,000
Actual (as of 8/15/17)	\$10,840.74	\$4,291.65

Presentation takeaways:

- Streamlining summer work provides a focused approach to professional development and summer projects that aligns to the district's Strategic Blueprint goals and action steps.
- Professional development opportunities were personalized and put a heavy emphasis on supporting technology development and piloting/implementing new math curricula.
- Summer projects gave teachers the opportunity to work in collaboration to ensure a smooth start to the school year.