

February 2026

General Education Report

Instructional Services and Coaching

During January, coaching efforts focused on supporting instructional priorities, data-informed decision-making, and teacher needs. We attended a Portrait of a Learner planning day and a Future Learning Council meeting, where work centered on identifying tangible demonstrations of learner dispositions and supporting Portland staff with this initiative. Staff discussions around Bridges Intervention continued, with coaching conversations helping teachers prioritize math skills for targeted small-group instruction, strengthen behavior management and organization, and refine grading practices.

Teachers celebrated student growth shown on mid-year assessments while also seeking guidance on how to use the data for future planning. Following the completion of winter Acadience benchmark assessments, coaches worked closely with teachers to analyze new data, compare it to fall results, and reorganize small groups or adjust instructional focus accordingly.

Additional planning support included preparation for a maternity leave, assistance with Number Corner preparation, and guidance on navigating challenging professional relationships. We also continued to scale up our learning around the use of AI tools to efficiently generate leveled reading materials for small-group instruction.

Time was spent preparing for upcoming professional learning opportunities, including a UFLI training/refresher to be provided for county teachers. Additionally, the MAISA Literacy Listening Tour connected with us to learn more about how we support Ionia County through our coaching work, building on relationships established through the Early Literacy Network.