

Executive Summary

Professional Development Update

Presented by Kimberly Britton

July 31, 2018

Summer professional development began at the May Institute. Representatives from each k-8 school reviewed curriculum documents and made necessary adjustments in language and mathematics for the 2018-19 school year. Science teachers from both 5th and 8th grade reviewed the new science standards and developed pacing guides and lesson plans using those new standards. Teachers from Tupelo High School spent 3 weeks this summer writing pacing guides for English II, Biology I, U.S. History, and Algebra I.

Administrators and teachers across the district went to the following conferences this summer: ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education), Eric Jensen (Teaching with the Brain in mind), At-Risk and Struggling Students, PLC at Work Institute, National I Teach Conference, National Association of Secondary Schools Principals Conference, and the Visible Learning Conference. Additionally, Central Office administrators attended MASS (Mississippi Association of School Superintendents). The focus was on Safety.

Our administrative retreat was wonderful. All principals and directors attended a 2-day session with Dr. Brad McCoy of the Flippen group. This retreat focused on leadership strategies to improve the culture of our schools and departments. Each administrator left with a personal plan to improve his/her leadership skills.

We will begin the school year with a New Teacher Orientation on August 2. Our new teachers will attend this 2-hour session and receive the following: a new teacher survival kit, guidance from TPSD special education, and introductions to TPSD leadership. Also, our counselors will receive training on MTSS and special education requirements regarding special education testing.

When our veteran teachers return on August 3, they will enjoy a key note speech from Dr. Vern Hazzard, of the Flippen Group. Afterwards, all of our special education teachers will be trained on the MDE requirements, and the remainder of our teaching staff will review curriculum updates.

Additionally, all K-5 teachers will receive training from CHAMPS.