

**Curriculum Department Report to the Board of Education**  
**Curriculum Department Highlights**  
**June 25, 2023**

**To:** Mr. Watts, Superintendent  
Ms. Malone, Chairperson of the Board  
Members of the Board of Education

**Newport Curriculum Department Vision:**

We envision a day when **all leaders** of Newport Independent Schools exhibit high expectations and guarantee excellence of instruction, ensure equitable opportunities and leverage all high quality resources so that students, staff and leaders will **maximize** their fullest potential.

Chief Operating Officer & Director District Wide-Services

**Professional Development**

The primary focus for PLCs this year is Collective Teacher Efficacy through effective instructional practices. It is important to ensure that the current systems that are in place have a direct impact on the learner. Improving teacher efficacy is paramount to increasing student success quickly. John Hattie's research states the following concerning collective teacher efficacy: "Collective Teacher Efficacy is the collective belief of teachers in their ability to positively affect students. With an effect size of  $d=1.57$  Collective Teacher Efficacy is strongly correlated with student achievement." In Hattie's work Collective Teacher Efficacy has the highest effect size concerning impact on student achievement.

Keeping this in mind the professional development for teachers this year, which will occur on the district assigned days, will contain a variety of opportunities to improve in a conference like setting. This will allow teachers to build their professional practices in areas that are separated by pathways. These pathways are the superintendent's 4 pillars which focus on PBIS, RTI, CRTL, and PLC. We have partnered with several community members to ensure the success of this conference called the "Wildcat Academy". Our hope is that teachers realize that we support personalized approaches to their professional development. Many community educational organizations have partnered with NISD to make this professional development happen.

Some of the topics to be presented are listed below: August 14th and 15th

1. Learning Targets/Success Criteria (what is the importance and difference between the two)
2. Behavior Management
3. The effects of trauma on the brain and learning
4. Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning
5. Student Goal Setting (how to involve students in their learning and progress monitoring)
6. SEL for teachers (self care)
7. Formative Assessment
8. Assessment for learning vs. Assessment of learning
9. Technology for student with IEP
10. Data Informed Instruction
11. Teaching student with Disabilities - Instructional strategies
12. Co-teaching
13. PD for Special Area Teachers (what do you offer?)
14. SIOP training (to support ELL students)

15. Any content specific trainings
16. Communication between home and school - Talking to Parents 101
17. Reading across Content
18. Infinite Campus 101 - grade book, etc.
19. Social Media
20. Data Collection that drives instruction
21. How Fine Arts teachers can support (reading and math)
22. Effective instructional practices for CTE teachers
23. RETRAINING OUR BRAIN: Understanding Bias/Culture
24. Validating student identities in curriculum
25. ENGAGING COMMUNAL LEARNERS WITH CRTL
26. ADDRESSING CULTURAL BEHAVIORS IN OUR CLASSROOMS
27. Assistive Technology for All
28. Connecting KDE Kentucky Mathematics Toolkit to Support Student with Disabilities to Lesson Plan Design and Implementation
29. Triangulating Individual Student Data to Support Programming & Instruction
30. IEP Development Progress Monitoring & Analyzing Data
31. Legal Reporting of ARC Decisions. Justifications, Recommendations, and Discussion of Student Data to Address Needs.
32. Dealing with Difficult Situations During ARC Meetings. Circumstances and Issues to Prepare for.
33. Legal Responsibilities When Investigating & Documenting Harassment and Discrimination

**Update:**

Schedule completed for sessions occurring on Aug. 14th & 15th.

The Wildcat Academy Committee met on July 21st to complete a checklist of items. (please, see attachment)

**New Teacher Induction**

**Update:**

-Aug 8th is the New Teacher Induction Orientation first session.

-Schedule (please see attachment)

Vector Solutions Safe Schools:

-List of Suggested Modules (please, see attachment) that align to our Professional Learning for the Wildcat Academy -Moving Forward Together and throughout SY:23-24

Onboarding is a vital first step of the recruitment and hiring process. The onboarding process is not just an opportunity for new hires to fill out paperwork, but to acclimate to campus culture and to learn knowledge vital to their roles.

Newport District Administrator & School Administrators will facilitate an induction program that meets the needs of all newly hired educators and first-year teachers. (School mentors are

selected and trained in order to maintain high expectations, consistency of support and align all required activities, schedules and programs that will enhance success for all stakeholders.)

The district will launch the New Teacher Induction Program with an orientation prior to the start of the school year. The orientation will include an overview of the district schools and key personnel as well as highlights of the New Teacher Induction Program. The orientation will also include expectations of mentors and mentees as well as scheduled program activities. A portion of time will be dedicated throughout the year for NTI Onboarding professional learning during our orientation sessions to support and prepare all new wildcats with experiences by providing them with a thoughtful, intentional onboarding experience that sets them up for success.

### **The Why:**

**Teacher Retention:** Research confirms induction programs increase the likelihood the teacher will remain in the teaching field and increases the likelihood the teacher will remain in our district.

**Classroom Practice:** Induction ensures beginning teachers are more effective in practice, including maintaining a positive classroom environment and demonstrating successful classroom management.

**Student Achievement:** Research consistently shows that students of beginning teachers who are involved in some kind of induction generally demonstrate higher scores and more growth on academic assessments.

### **Preparing Powerpoint presentations**

Mentor/Mentee for NTI Aug. 8, 2023

CRTL/IB overview for all Administrators, Teachers/Staff Aug. 9, 2023

2023 Student Academic Data to be shared at Leadership Conference Jul 24, 2023

### **District Assessment Coordinator**

Assessment literacy refers to the knowledge, skills, and process associated with designing, selecting, implementing, scoring, and/or using high-quality assessments to improve student learning (U.S. Department of Education).

As a district we seek to improve our assessment culture and climate and knowledge of summative assessment by the creation of a district wide assessment calendar. This calendar includes assessments given building wide at all three levels. (i.e., IReady, MAP & ACT...) Currently, we are in the developmental phase of this calendar while working closely with KDE and building Administrators.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Katina Brown**

Director of District Wide Services

**Darla Payne**

Director of Curriculum and Instruction