

North Smithfield Professional Development Plan 2014-2015

DRAFT

	Teacher Orientation Day 8/25/14	PD Day #1 9/9/14	PD Day #2 11/4/14	PD Day #3 3/20/15	PD Day #4 4/17/15
8:00 – 9:30	Superintendent's Welcome	Google Apps -Google Accounts/Drive -Shared Documents	Google Apps -Teachers will choose from a menu focusing on Google Apps	Google Apps -Calendar, sites, presentation, docs, collaborating, drawing	Google Apps -Using technology to enhance instruction -Blended Learning
9:45- 11:45	Faculty Meetings Mandatory Trainings -Blood Bourne pathogens	Questioning Techniques- Recommended by DEC committee	-Questioning Techniques -NGSS Standards -Autism Strategies	1) Formative Assessment 2) Using Data to Inform Instruction *HS Senior Project	PARCC readiness *HS Senior Project
12:00 – 2:30	Superintendent Welcome Back Address @ HS Lunch/Second Annual District Cook Out	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
		Grade Level/Department Professional Learning Communities	Grade Level/Department Professional Learning Communities	Grade Level/Department Professional Learning Communities	Grade Level/Department Professional Learning Communities

2014-2015 Ongoing Initiatives/Programs/Committees:

The RI Basic Education Program (BEP,) District Strategic Plan, developed curriculum cycle, Professional Development Advisory Committee and Curriculum Task Force Teams are the guiding systems and structures for curriculum and instruction in North Smithfield. The guiding documents, programs and committees work in tandem for the purpose of improving instruction, professional development and student achievement.

Guiding Structures-

- RI Basic Education Program (BEP)
- District Strategic Plan
- Curriculum Cycle
- Survey Results
- Professional Development Advisory Committee
- Curriculum Task Force Teams by Content Area

Sub-committees:

- Formative Assessment Resident Expert Team
- Argument Writing Resident Expert team
- District Data Use Team

The Curriculum/PD Components:

- Study of the Standards, Curriculum and Units
- Professional Development (teaching practices/implementation)
- Assessments (formative and summative)
- Materials for Implementation

Common Core Standards

The Common Core State Standards Initiative is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The standards were developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and experts, to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare our children for college and the workforce.

North Smithfield Schools has a comprehensive Common Core Transition Plan. To date, NS has developed Curriculum Guides, Curriculum Maps, Units of Study, rubrics and assessment in the area of English Language Arts and Mathematics. Programs and materials have been purchased to support the implementation of the standards and curriculum. Professional Development is on-going.

The implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) remains the priority initiative in North Smithfield's curriculum, instruction, and assessment efforts. K-12 curricula in Mathematics and English Language Arts has been developed and implemented, and initial resources have been identified and acquired. Recognizing that the tenets of the CCSS must transcend all subject areas throughout the 2014-2015 school year, we will continue to follow our curriculum renewal cycle by developing and refining standards-based curricula, assessments, and comprehensive units in the areas of Social Studies, Mathematics and English Language Arts.

The standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs. For more information go to:

<http://curriculum.northsmithfieldschools.com/content/brief-overview-and-links>

Math Initiatives

During the 12-13 School year, NS teachers developed an articulated and aligned K-12 Mathematics Curriculum. The curriculum writers worked tirelessly to create documents that will guide all teachers to fully understand the level and depth of each standard. The documents include:

Curriculum Guide- The curriculum guide ‘unpacks’ each standard. You will notice that our teachers included: essential questions, skills, knowledge, vocabulary and sample math problems.

Curriculum Map- the standards are broken up into five or six units of study. You will see some standards are highlighted (in grades 3-12 recommended by PARCC Assessment) to indicate major content, supporting content, and additional content. As you would imagine, the ‘major content’ are the most important.

Units of Study- The units of study are written using the Understanding by Design (UbD) format. The units include an overview, essential questions, student objectives and much more!

All documents have been organized into ‘livebinders’ and can be found on the curriculum website under the ‘curriculum documents’ tab. During the 14-15 school year, teachers will continue to refine units of study, analyze assessment results, study the CCSS mathematical practices and focus on instructional strategies for application of math content. All k-12 math teachers will work in professional learning communities for three full days continue to extend and refine math curriculum, units, instruction and assessment.

Technology

Google Apps • Promethean Board • Technology Integration

Google Apps for Education makes collaboration fast and easy. The website and document creation tools offer real-time editing, powerful sharing controls, and seamless compatibility – an ideal environment for learning in the 21st century. It includes dozens of security features specifically designed to keep data safe and secure. With Google Apps for Education, everything is automatically saved in the cloud - 100% powered by the web. This means that emails, documents, calendar and sites can be accessed - and edited - on almost any mobile device or tablet.

McRel Classroom Instruction that Works Strategies

NS will continue to implement the researched-based common instructional strategies in the 14-15 school year.

Teachers representing all grade levels have been trained in the McRel "Classroom Instruction that Works" strategies, a comprehensive set of teaching strategies that have been found to be effective in increasing the academic achievement of all students at all grade levels. All North Smithfield students will benefit from consistent, predictable instructional strategies throughout their educational careers.

I sincerely thank our teacher trainers for all the time, energy and effort that they have given to this important initiative!

Using the "Train the Trainer" model, our teacher trainers have undergone rigorous professional development and then share their knowledge and expertise with colleagues. The trainers at each building are:

NSES- Heather Santurri, Laurie Manosh, Jen Daigneault, Kerri Gaulin, Cyndy McLellan, Tracy Lafrenniere **Halliwell-** Kelly Hubacz, Diane Kohler, Amy Wright, Corinne Ferri, Andrea Lafleur, Kristin Stone **NSMS-** Valerie Carnevale, Gale O'Keefe, Jane Franklin, John Galoski, Brian Chuey, Lynn Hannah **NSHS-** Mark Hickox, Christine Welch, Julie Houle, Amy Gravel

District Data Use Team

North Smithfield Schools developed a District Data Use Team this year. This team participated in a Data Use Professional Development series to learn and implement a culture of collaborative data use. These educators are critical in implementing and maintaining data-driven instructional practices at the district and school level. We truly appreciate the time and effort of the team members: Jilian Bitee, Cheryl Scchs, Mark Salisbury, Renee Guertin, Angela DaCosta, Michelle Halloran, Mary Ellen Tillotson, Amy Gibbins, William Pepin, Carolyn Frayne, Diane Jolin, John Lahar and Robert Mezzanotte. During the 14-15 school year the District Data Use team will continue to analyze mathematics data across the district and make recommendations about strengths, areas in need of improvement, as well as, recommendations for future professional development sessions.

Professional Development Advisory Committee

Last year, North Smithfield Schools developed a Professional Development Advisory Committee. The committee provides a forum to discuss, act as a sounding board, share input, and provide insight as to how professional development might best meet the needs of our faculty. The purpose of the *Professional Development Advisory Committee* is to support and enhance professional development services and programs of in North Smithfield for the goal of improving student achievement. The committee has worked with the Director of Curriculum to develop a draft professional development plan for the 2014-2015 school year.

Mathematics Curriculum and Assessment Refinement– Grant Funded

This project was a multifaceted project supporting the launch of Mathematics Curriculum implementation aligned to the Common Core Standards. The North Smithfield School Department has completed the development of Mathematics Curriculum in the Spring of 2013. The curriculum includes a curriculum guide, which ‘unpacks’ each standard, a curriculum map displaying the standards in order of instruction, units of study based on the Understanding by Design (UbD) format, and unit assessments, which will be scored by standard. To propel and support the implementation, all K-12 Mathematics teachers (by grade/department) have worked in *professional learning communities* to refine work completed in the Spring 2013. Teachers made adjustments and modifications to curriculum maps now that teachers have had a chance to begin implementing. Each grade level/department has met for three full days. During this time teachers made necessary changes to the unit assessments, as well as, the parent/student study guides that accompany each unit of study. Teachers shared experiences with the new curriculum, identified successful strategies as well as barriers to implementation. The unit assessment (five units per grade level) data were also analyzed by major content standard. All student data is available to teachers through a shared Google doc, which illustrates the percentage of points attained by each student focusing on the major content standards within the unit. During the 14-15 school year, all K-12 math teachers will have three full days to continue to refine curriculum implementation.

K-12 Math Common Core Task Force

The Math Common Core Task Force will continue to meet regularly throughout the 14-15 school year. Teachers and administrators come together to discuss ‘where we are’ and ‘where we are going’ with regards to the mathematics curriculum implementation. Though honest conversations we have been able to make timely decisions that impact our implementation process. This team has made a tremendous impact on mathematics programming, I look forward to working with them again next year!

Social Studies Curriculum Development

Last year, NS developed social studies curriculum for grades 7-12. The reason we decided to put K-6 social studies curriculum writing ‘on-hold’ for now is simply because K-6 classroom teachers instruct in all subjects and are in the process of implementing new curriculum in ELA and Math. The 7-12 teachers began the curriculum process by meeting for a full day during a PD day to determine the content, courses, and framework - including a 7-12 scope and sequence of topics. Each grade level/course team has met for four days to unpack each standard, develop a curriculum guide, group standards into units of study, identify ‘best-practice’ teaching strategies, develop units and create rubrics. Our Social Studies task force has created a mission and guiding beliefs as the foundation

of our curriculum work. The NS social studies teachers have been amazingly committed to this important project. During the 14-15 school year, NS will implement newly created curriculum and units of study.

ELA Curriculum – Ongoing Refinement

In April of 2012, North Smithfield Schools began the development of a K-12 English Language Arts Curriculum aligned with the Common Core State standards. Our teachers worked tirelessly in grade level/department teams, as well as, across and between grade levels to pinpoint instructional standards, expectations and instructional shifts from Grade Level Expectations to the Common Core State Standards. It was an enormous initiative and demonstrates the dedication of our teachers.

Our curriculum is designed based on the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Model Content Framework for ELA, organizing the standards into modules that include the knowledge and skills students will learn and apply throughout the year.

To access our ELA curriculum aligned to the Common Core State Standards, visit the NS curriculum website, hover over the 'Curriculum' tab (top left) then hover over 'NS K-12 ELA Curriculum' and select the grade level. The curriculum documents were organized using live binders. Each tab holds critical documents essential to our programming. We will continue to refine and update the binders.

During the 14-15 school year we will continue to refine curriculum documents and units of study. All K-12 ELA teachers will meet for three full days to continue this important work.

Formative Assessment – Resident Expert Team

During the 14-15 school year, the “Formative Assessment - Resident Expert Team” of teachers will continue to study, research and compile resources about formative assessment practices and strategies to enhance instruction and student learning. We are grateful for the work and commitment of our teachers: Jessica Phaneuf, Lindsay Brooks, Jaclyn Cunningham, Kelly Hubacz, Bernadette Hawkins and Tracy Lafreniere. The team has shared knowledge and resources during faculty meetings, via the NS Formative Assessment blog and also created a “formative assessment” library of

resources located in a faculty lunch room within each building. The Formative Assessment Professional Development course is currently available to all Rhode Island educators through RIDEmap. To access the modules, please log into RIDEmap and select the blue Formative Assessment PD link on the right side of the page. We are using a blended learning approach, which combines interactive online modules with facilitated Communities of Practice at the school level. The online modules include direct instruction, testimony from RI educators, video models of practice, assessments of learning, required readings, and extension activities.

Argument Writing – Resident Expert Team

Our Argument Writing-Resident Expert Team was established in the Fall of 2011. The team was charged with the task of studying the Common Core Writing Standards focusing on argument writing, compiling resources and developing professional development sessions to support our teachers. The team continues to meet and has developed voluntary planning sessions focusing on instructional practices and resources. The team will continue this work throughout the 14-15 school year. The team also developed and updates the NS Argument Writing Blog. The blog address is:

<http://nsargumentwritingblog.wordpress.com>

Important Dates 14-15 School Year

September 17th – Foreign Language I (French and Spanish)

September 24th- Foreign Language I (French and Spanish)

September 25th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- HS English 9/10

September 26th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- HS English 11/12

October 1st- Foreign Language I (French and Spanish)

October 1st- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- ELA Gr. 7-8

October 2nd- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- HS Math/ALg

October 3rd- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 3

October 3rd- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- HS Math/Geo

October 8th- Foreign Language I (French and Spanish)

October 8th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Math Gr. 7-8

October 9th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 1

October 10th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 4
October 15th- Foreign Language II (French and Spanish)
October 15th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 6
October 16th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade K
October 17th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 5
October 6th- K-12 Literacy Meeting/Formative assessment
October 22nd- Foreign Language II (French and Spanish)
October 23rd- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 2
October 29th- Foreign Language II (French and Spanish)
November 5th- Foreign Language II (French and Spanish)
November 5th- NGSS Task Force meeting at MS Lecture room 2:15
November 12th- Foreign Language III (French and Spanish)
November 17th- Professional Development Advisory Committee @ 3:00 KD
November 19th- Foreign Language III (French and Spanish)
November 19th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Math Gr7-8
November 26th- Foreign Language III (French and Spanish)
December 3rd- Foreign Language III (French and Spanish)
December 3rd- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 6
January 5th- Title I meeting/Planning session 12:00-3:30
January 12th- Argument Writing Resident Expert Meeting @ KD
January 7th- Music Grades 7 & 8
January 14th- Music Grades 7 & 8
January 21st- Music Grades 7 & 8
January 21st- K-12 Music Task Force meeting @ 3:00 NSMS room 348
January 22nd- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade K
January 23rd- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 3
January 26th- K-12 Math Task Force meeting 3:00 @ KD
January 28th- Music Grades 9-12
January 29th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 1
January 30th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 4

February 2nd- Professional Development Advisory Committee Meeting 3:00 @ KD
February 4th- Music Grades 9-12
February 5th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- HS English 9/10 (3)
February 6th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- HS English 11/12 (3)
February 6th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 5
February 11th- Music Grades 9-12
February 12th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- Grade 2
February 12th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- HS Math ALG 1&2 (4)
February 13th- Curriculum and Instruction Refinement- HS Math Geo (3)
February 25th- Music Grades 5 & 6
March 11th- Music Grades 5 & 6
March 12th- Instruction Refinement- Grade 2
March 18th- Music Grades 5 & 6
March 18th- K-12 Music Task Force meeting @ 3:00 NSMS room 348
March 20th- Professional Development Day
March 25th- Music Grades 3 & 4
March 30th- K-12 Math Task Force meeting 3:00 @ KD
April 1st- Music Grades 3 & 4
April 8th- Music Grades 3 & 4
April 15th- Music Grades K-2
April 15th- K-12 Music Task Force meeting @ 3:00 NSMS room 348
April 17th- Professional Development Day
April 29th- Music Grades K-2
May 6th- Music Grades K-2