

Material Matters!

c/o ATMS @ 240 Raider Drive Cookeville, TN 38501 phone: 372-2512
Supervisor's Meeting, December 4, 2007

Important Dates

December 4 - #SC118 – Scott Foresman SS textbook presentation – K-5 – Leslie Towne Center 4:00-5:30

January 2 – County-wide In-service – See details in this newsletter

January 17 - #SC119 – Houghton-Mifflin SS textbook presentation – Nick's Restaurant – 3:15 – 5:45.

Professional Development Opportunities

Please place ALL professional development sessions on the Materials Center website so that others may participate. Go to www.putnamcountyschools.com

Here is a listing of current offerings: (**sessions in bold** are new since the last issue of Material Matters!)

December 4 – Scott Foresman K -5 SS training @ Leslie Towne Center – 4:00-4:30 snacks – presentation 4:30 – 5:30.

January 8 – Professional Development Council (PDC), 3:45 – 4:45 – ATMS Library - All teachers, administrators, supervisors invited to participate along with designated school reps.

January 31 – Early dismissal PD afternoon – ALL personnel will be involved in Suicide Prevention Training as mandated by State Law. We will divide into PreK-4 @ UHS, 5-8 @ ATMS and 9-12 @ CHS. System-wide personnel, choose a location! This is required for everyone. We have to give the presenters a “count” so they can bring the appropriate number of handouts, so it would be nice if you could let your supervisor know which site you will attend, and supervisors, let yours truly know.

NEWS FLASH!! June 27 Marcia Tate session has been cancelled due to lack of sign-ups. The few who signed up for June 27 are asked to transfer/register for June 13 if at all possible. We will fill June 13 to capacity (200)!

Professional Development Council

After Material Matters! November 11 was sent out, I double-checked the poster sheets before tossing them. This input was left off the original report-out! Here are committee member responses to the query, What can we do to be ready for the new curriculum and new state tests coming in 2009?

- ✓ Educate parents on the rigor of the new standards;
- ✓ Educate teachers on the new standards;
- ✓ Teach teachers how to teach the new standards;
- ✓ County-wide curriculum mapping for each 9 weeks;
- ✓ Focus on quality instead of quantity of curriculum;
- ✓ Use the textbook as only one resource, NOT the total subject-area program;
- ✓ Contact other systems using NAEP standards to utilize what others have found successful;
- ✓ Use national certified teachers as resources;
- ✓ Provide supplements to outdated but recently adopted textbooks;
- ✓ Develop strategies “tool kits” for teaching the new standards most effectively.

Another project is to establish a cadre of teachers who are trained in various areas and who are willing to provide in-service training when needed. Here is the beginning of our list as provided by your colleagues!

Experts listed on poster paper

Denette Kolbe – Getting the data to work 4 you! & any application of TVAAS data
Janet Raines – Science and SS instruction
Dana Griggs & Jason Baugh – making math come alive
Bev Mackie – Balanced Literacy
Gavin Moore – US History
Laura Carter – World History
Tammy Clarke – planning toward TCAP, brain-based strategies
Bethany Fillers – Classroom management
Suzi Rymer – True Colors
Tabitha Bohannon, Beth Gaw, Beverly Hall – Nutrition
Cindy Taylor – staff development
Tina Francis – Technology

Sharon Anderson – Promethean Boards
Beau DeBord – Promethean Boards
Johnny Sloan – Web 2.0 tools in the classroom
Joan Hufstедler – K-3 Literacy, 3 tier reading model
Angela Dyer – Writing grades 3-5
Kendra Johnson – Writing grades 3-5
Marissa Clement – News Broadcasting

Please continue to submit teachers to add to our “expert” list. We will take volunteers as well as nominees! Staff development that is provided in-house throughout the year is an effective practice.

Again, everyone is invited to participate in the PDC.

County-wide In-service January 2, 2008

Here is how the day looks at this time (8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with lunch served onsite). A more detailed flyer will be provided before you leave for the holidays.

Quantum Learning Training – Algood, ATMS, Baxter, Burks, Cane Creek, Cornerstone, Dry Valley, Jere Whitson, Monterey, Northeast, Park View, Prescott, Sycamore, Uffelman, Upperman, Adult High School
Singapore Math – Capshaw
Reading in the Content Areas – CHS

Extended Contract, LEAPS

Payroll date is January 18, 2008. In order for this to occur, Sylvia Smith (EC) & Julie Cook (LEAPS) will need your signed hard copies of your timesheets for October, November, and December BEFORE you leave on Christmas break. Along with the timesheets please submit your data reports and student contact spreadsheets on or before December 19 if you have not submitted them electronically month-by-month. (EC only)

Several have asked why the month-by-month electronic timesheets if a hard copy is needed for payroll quarterly...we are attempting to establish a protocol (routine, habit) for all Extended Learning Programs (Extended Contract, LEAPS, BEP 2.0) in order to avoid overages that occurred last year. Believe us, it was not a happy time. Help us be pro-active. Thank you in advance.

BEP/CIF spending deadline - February 1, 2008. Please spend your money!

Professional Learning Communities: Doing Whatever It Takes...

Is July 24, 2007 (county-wide in-service) just a fuzzy memory? Let us re-emphasize the importance of PLC's and encourage everyone to continue application of PLC protocol established on that day.

Collaboration is the new buzz-word in education. It is often seen as the panacea for all of education's ills. Some schools fail to take the time to investigate the concept in more depth because they feel they already do that. Schools point to common practices that occur all the time in schools as evidence of collaboration taking place in their buildings. Conversations at team or department meetings, dialogues between teachers in the lounge, informal talks in the hallways between classes, and conferences between administrators and teachers are all used as examples of collaborative practices. However, **authentic collaboration** goes much deeper. To reap the benefits of true collaboration, it is important for schools to investigate the practice in depth and understand what distinguishes collaboration from all other interactions.

Principals must provide time during the workday for collaborative teams to meet, and require teams to concentrate their efforts on specific achievement goals. In order for collaboration to be successful, it can't be sporadic, it can't happen occasionally, it can't be random, and it can't meander from topic to topic without structure.

The rest of this informative article may be accessed below. Please take the time to read it and apply it. There are 18 powerful strategies given to maintain PLC's in our schools.

<http://www.askeducation.com/newsletter/newletterNOV-07.htm>



