



OLATHE NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL

Building on the Core of Excellence

Mission

Olathe Northwest empowers students to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Guiding Principles

Rigor & Relevance

Respectful Relationships

Professional Collaboration

Lifelong Learning

Vision

By 2014, all ONW students will develop higher-order thinking skills in an environment that is rigorous, relevant, and relationship-oriented in order to meet the challenges of post-high school opportunities.

Core SIP Goals

All students will improve reading comprehension.

All students will improve their problem-solving skills by focusing on higher level thinking.

Additional SIP Goals

All students will be able to select appropriate technology tools to extend curricular objectives.

All students will engage in ACT content and test-taking strategies to improve their composite scores in order to attain personal goals.

Professional Learning Communities

Implement SIP goals and SMART Goals

Identify essential outcomes per course (8-10/semester)

Develop quarterly common assessments

“Think of literacy as the spine; it holds everything together. The branches of learning connect to it.”

V. Phillips and C. Wong, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (2010)

Consistent Focus Areas:

- Rigor
 - Increasing brain torque
 - Integrating levels 2 and 3 of Costa’s Inquiry
- Simplicity, Clarity, Priority
 - Displaying and communicating clear learning objectives
 - Planning and implementing effective lessons
 - Continuous checking for understanding/formative assessment
 - Closure (e.g. exit slip, think/pair/share)
- Disciplinary Literacy
 - “Understanding what questions are important to the discipline and how to seek answers to those questions” and “Reading and writing successfully within that discipline” –H. Johnson (2011)
 - Research-based instructional strategies to deepen content-area knowledge
 - Summarization
 - Cornell Notes

Focus Topics for Building Professional Development:

- August 9-15, 2013 (Preservice)
 - Edcamp—School Improvement, Technology, Activities
 - Professional Learning Communities
 - Long-Range Planning
 - Building Expectations & Routines
 - Common Core State Standards Overview
- August 22, 2013 (August Faculty Meeting)
 - Seminar Vision & Procedures
- September 5, 2013 (September Faculty Meeting)
 - How to Read Like a . . .
- October 3, 2013 (October Faculty Meeting)
 - Follow-up to September/Prep for Literacy Lesson Study
 - Article on Lesson Study
- October 8-11 (Special Topics Meeting, Pending Approval)

- Test Day Administration
- October 17, 2013 (Testing Day AM/No Students PM)
 - Literacy Lesson Study (2 hours)
- October 22, 2013 (Building Professional Development AM; PLC Implementation PM)
 - Susan Isaacs—Safe & Civil Schools
- November 7, 2013 (November Faculty Meeting)
 - Literacy Lesson Reflections and Celebrations
- December (Tuesday Planning Period Meetings)
 - First Semester Reflection
- January 3, 2013 (Building Professional Development PM)
 - Test Day Results Reflection / Preparation for Test Results Day
- January 9, 2013 (January Faculty Meeting)
 - How to Write Like a . . .
- February 6, 2013 (February Faculty Meeting)
- February 8, 2013 (PLC Implementation PM)
 - PLC (may include district direction)
- March 6, 2013 (March Faculty Meeting)
- March 25, 2013 (Building Professional Development PM)
 - Literacy Lesson Study
- April 10, 2013 (April Faculty Meeting)
 - Literacy Lesson Study Celebrations
- May 8, 2013 (May Faculty Meeting)

PLC Leadership Study Group

Who? Teachers interested in developing their leadership skills

What? Book study & professional collaboration

Where? Office conference room

When? Friday: 8/31, 9/14, 10/26, 11/9, 12/14, 1/11, 2/22, 3/8, 4/12,
5/10 @ 7:15 a.m.

Why? To improve collaboration

*Participants will earn points for reading & reflection.