



OLATHE NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL

Strengthening Our Spine

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
 - Brain torque, not RPM
 - Integrating levels 2 and 3 of Costa’s Inquiry
 - 66% consistently use in class, 46% report consistent student success in responding, 26% report consistent student success in posing
 - Using Cornell Notes as a process and learning strategy
 - 53% comfortable using in class consistently
- Simplicity, Clarity, Priority
 - Displaying and communicating clear learning objectives and/or essential questions
 - 64% consistently display in class (not just an agenda), 75% report students could consistently answer “What are you learning today?”
 - Planning and implementing effective lessons
 - Continuous checking for understanding/formative assessment
 - 86% confident in repertoire to check for understanding consistently
 - Closure (e.g. exit slip, think/pair/share)
 - 43% consistently implement closure
- 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
 - Close Reading (i.e. marking the text and use of short, challenging passages)
 - 61% confident in implementing close-reading strategies consistently
 - Writing (i.e. templates, mentor texts, modeling)
 - 67% confident in implementing writing strategies consistently
 - Reading, Writing, Speaking-Listening Integration
- Safe and Civil Schools
 - Greeting students at the door
 - 89% report consistently greeting students provides them an opportunity to connect
 - Supervision in common areas
 - 74% report consistently seeing adults address PDA, hats, profanity, etc.
 - Positive language
 - 94% comfortable consistently using positive language to promote safe learning environment (in classroom and common areas)

Building Professional Development Overview

Revised for Second Semester

- **January 3, 2014** (Educator Prep AM; Building Professional Development PM)
 - Data Analysis for Common Assessments/Semester Exams
- **January 15, 2014** (January Faculty Meeting)
 - Revised Building Professional Development Overview
 - Test Day Results Review
- **February 5, 2014** (February Faculty Meeting)
 - Safe & Civil Schools
 - ALICE Training Introduction
 - Spotlight on Summarization
 - PLC Follow-Up
- **February 7, 2014** (Rescheduled District Professional Development AM; Educator Prep PM)
 - SIP Review Rescheduled by Department
- **March 5, 2014** (March Faculty Meeting)
 - Flipped Professional Development: Focus on Reading/Writing/Speaking-Listening Connection
 - PLC Follow-Up
- **March 24, 2014** (Educator Prep AM; Building Professional Development PM)
 - ALICE Training
- **April 9, 2014** (April Faculty Meeting)
 - Reading/Writing/Speaking-Listening Connection Share Session
- **May 7, 2014** (May Faculty Meeting)
 - End-of-Year Information & Celebrations
 - ALICE Training