



Professional Development Calendar 2020-2021

Every Friday, students are dismissed early so that teachers can engage in a full afternoon of designated professional development. In addition to short sessions that meet once annually (i.e. Building Safety Protocols), there are four types of professional development that occur each Friday (typically one per month) – Antiracist Pedagogy, Advancing the Schoolwide Student-Centered Learning Initiative or Restorative Practices, Affinity Groups, and Extended Grade Team Meetings. Antiracist Pedagogy is designed to meet the long-needed task of ensuring our pedagogy is culturally responsive and builds on previous sessions on Equity. We view Antiracist Pedagogy as the framing device for every single piece of our practice for this school year and beyond. Advancing the Schoolwide Initiative is based on the school's long-term commitment to successfully implementing the student-centered practices in Leaders of Their Own Learning with and sessions are typically led by the Assistant Principal for Instruction and Teacher Development, along with the instructional coaches. This year the focus is on taking the foundation we have built through several years and running an expanded pilot of Project-Based Learning based on PBL Works's Gold Standard PBL approach. The once per month Extended Grade Team Meetings provide teachers and counselors time to analyze grade-level student performance data and determine if further scholar intervention, including RTI referral, is recommended. Affinity groups, co-facilitated by a member of our Leadership Team and a teacher, is doing data-based research on future levers for our school. Significant department time is also provided to either the STEM team (math and science) or the Humanities team (ELA and social studies) every other Friday morning. This ensures that each department has adequate opportunity to look at student work/data and plan at least twice per month, including time with the Special Populations Coordinator to ensure teachers are up-to-date on SPED scholar needs. The team that teaches that Friday also has extended class periods to conduct science labs (on STEM Friday) or social studies research (on Humanities Friday).

Our integrated model of professional development, teacher observation and teacher evaluation has played a significant role in our being able to create a sustainable learning environment where academic rigor is valued; where all decisions are informed by data; where all stakeholders are self-reflective in order to improve and meet the standards to which they are held accountable, as individuals and as a collective community; and where collaboration is at the heart of our professional learning community.

2019-20 Professional Development Calendar

| | |
|--------------|--|
| August 17-18 | New Teacher Orientation (see Ramp Up Calendar) |
| August 19-28 | Staff Ramp Up (see Ramp Up Calendar) |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| August 28 | Extended Grade Team Meetings |
| September 11 | Affinity Groups |
| September 18 | Project-Based Learning/Counselor Department Meeting |
| September 25 | Antiracist Pedagogy |
| October 2 | Extended Grade Team Meetings |
| October 9 | Affinity Groups |
| October 16 | Project-Based Learning/Counselor Department Meeting |
| October 26 | PD Day (see agenda) |
| October 30 | Extended Grade Team Meeting |
| November 6 | Affinity Groups |
| November 13 | Project-Based Learning/Counselor Department Meeting |
| December 4 | Affinity Group |
| December 11 | Holiday Party |
| December 18 | Holiday Break – Early Dismissal |
| January 4 | PD Day (see agenda) |
| January 8 | Project-Based Learning/Counselor Department Meeting |
| January 22 | Antiracist Pedagogy |
| January 29 | Extended Grade Team Meeting |
| February 5 | Affinity Group |
| February 12 | Winter Break – Early Dismissal |
| February 22 | PD Day (see agenda) |
| February 26 | Project-Based Learning/Counselor Department Meeting |
| March 5 | Extended Grade Team Meeting |
| March 12 | Antiracist Pedagogy |

| | |
|----------|---|
| March 19 | Affinity Group |
| March 26 | Project-Based Learning/Counselor Department Meeting |
| April 16 | Extended Grade Team Meeting (ELA Test Preparation) |
| April 23 | Affinity Group |
| April 30 | Extended Grade Team Meeting (Math Test Preparation) |
| May 7 | Project-Based Learning/Counselor Department Meeting |
| May 14 | Antiracist Pedagogy |
| May 28 | Project-Based Learning/Counselor Department Meeting |
| June 4 | Affinity Group Presentations |
| June 11 | Extended Grade Team Meeting |