

Thomaston Public Schools

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Thomaston Public Schools Implement Teacher Coaching

Thomaston Public Schools Implement Professional Development in the Form of Coaching to Support Implementation of New Curriculum in Mathematics and Language Arts

Thomaston, CT- During the last two weeks across the district, teachers took part in a series of professional development coaching opportunities which supported engagement around the newly created curriculum that will be implemented this year in Language Arts and Mathematics thanks in part to grants provided by the State of Connecticut. Led by a team of professionals from SERC and Education Connection under the direction of Alisha DiCorpo, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment for Thomaston Public Schools, teachers were provided time by department and/or grade level to think about the first unit of study that was implemented in both Mathematics and English Language Arts curriculum in order to determine what is working for both teachers and students, and what teachers would like to have additional support with.

This in district coaching comes after the first professional development day of the school-year held on August 24, 2015 which was the first step in professional development implementation throughout the district. Now that teachers are implementing the new curriculum in Language Arts and Mathematics, it is only natural that questions will arise about implementation, student work, assessment, and pacing. Each month all teachers in district will be afforded the opportunity to be guided through the units of study in each curriculum area, look closely and examine data from their curriculum assessments and ask questions of the coaches. “This embedded professional development model will collectively have the biggest impact on teacher practice and therefore will directly impact the implementation of curriculum in classrooms. As a district, we believe these efforts will lead to gains in student growth and achievement over time,” DiCorpo said.

“This is an exciting time for the Thomaston Public School community-parents, teachers, staff and students as we work towards fulfilling our mission to “Educate, challenge and inspire each individual to excel and become a contributing member of society.” The first step in engaging stakeholders in the mission was to create curriculum that would challenge students. As we enter our next phase of professional learning and data collection and analysis, we seek to monitor student growth and engagement. It is through this collective work that Thomaston will build on its pursuit of academic excellence for every student,” DiCorpo said.

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For more information, press only:

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