

Thomaston Public Schools

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### **Thomaston Public Schools Implement Professional Development**

#### **Thomaston Public Schools Hold Professional Development to Support Implementation of New Curriculum in Mathematics, Technology and Language Arts**

**Thomaston, CT-** On August 24, 2015, teachers took part in a series of professional development workshops which supported engagement around the newly created curriculum that will be implemented this year in Language Arts, Mathematics and Technology. Led by a team of professionals from within district under the direction of Alisha DiCorpo, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment for Thomaston Public Schools, Michelle Dayton and Preston Soepresteo as well as a team of professionals from SERC, the state resource center, shared the new curriculum and how it would be implemented in classrooms throughout the district this fall. Teachers were excited to see the curriculum and to learn about how to implement the new units of study in each area. Teachers took time to meet together to discuss implementation in grade level teams in preparation for students arriving on August 26, 2015-Thomaston Public Schools first day of school.

The professional development held on August 24, 2015 is just the first step in professional development implementation throughout the district. Each professional that led the development sessions will put on a “new hat” as the school year begins-that of coach. 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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