

Thomaston Public Schools

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**Thomaston Public Schools Unveil New Curriculum**

**Thomaston Public Schools Announce the Implementation of New Curriculum in Mathematics, Technology and Language Arts**

**Thomaston, CT-** This summer teachers spent time learning about a new curriculum framework that would enhance the mission of the Thomaston Board of Education. This framework, introduced by the Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, became the basis for curriculum mapping in district and will lay the foundation for what comprises curriculum in Thomaston Public Schools. Teachers worked diligently to create curriculum maps that contain units of study complete with model lessons and assessments which help to identify student need before, during and after the unit is implemented. This level of assessment will help teachers determine what foundational skills and standards need support and which can be accelerated based on individual student need.

In order to ensure that teachers have a common understanding of the curriculum, professional development will be held on August 24, 2015. This professional development will provide teachers time to learn about the curriculum components and to work with colleagues to begin thinking about the first unit of study to prepare for the beginning of the school year. The support in implementation however, will not end there. Led by Alisha DiCorpo, an educational resource center and several teacher leaders in district, teachers will be provided with coaching opportunities during and after school each week as the units are being implemented. The coaching that will occur in classrooms will be a direct result of what the teachers say they need to improve their practice around a unit of study. Overtime, the feedback that will come out of the hour long coaching sessions at each grade level will help to ensure that a common language is developed for students and teachers around the curriculum units and will also help the district to focus on the vertical articulation of curriculum and pacing. The common assessments that are contained in the curriculum will provide teachers with a common point of discussion centered-around student learning. It is the collective theory of the Thomaston administration that when teachers are provided time to reflect on lesson implementation and to have rich discussions around data and share teacher practices, then student learning will improve.

“This is an exciting time for the Thomaston community. For the first time, teachers will be provided a curriculum map that will help them as practitioners to design quality lessons, instruct, engage, assess and reflect on their practice. The curriculum maps will facilitate and ensure comprehensive learning experiences for all students. As a district, Thomaston Public Schools are committed to providing high-quality instruction in every classroom, engaging students in personalized learning experiences, while assessing and reflecting upon these learning experiences. It is through this approach, that curriculum will transform teaching and learning, while assuring results for all students in the Thomaston Public Schools,” DiCorpo said.

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**For more information, press only:**

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