

**RELATIONSHIPS  
FIRST!**

# CLEARVIEW

## Curriculum Connection

Volume 6; Issue 209

February 2, 2024

### Clearview Secondary Math Professional Development Event Next Week!

Next week on Tuesday, **February 6th**, Clearview will have a team of math teachers grades 4-12 engaging in math professional development. The participants are listed below in the graphic. Improving student academic achievement in math is a district goal identified through the Ohio Improvement Process. Resources, initiatives, and programs have been focused on this goal for the past several years. PD is an important component. Our Clearview Math teachers grades 4-12 will participate in a day of collaboration, organization, and professional learning.

The event will take place at the Educational Service Center of Lorain County. It will be facilitated by ESC Math Specialist **Mallary Mancino**. In advance of the program, Mallary has provided a survey to the group and she has been reviewing our Clearview Renaissance STAR math scores from the initial benchmarking to the current midyear test mark. She will gear the training to fit the needs of our students and teachers. The activities presented will focus on math instruction and organization for grades 4-12 and in general will include:

- 1) **Data: Interpretation and analysis**
- 2) **Curriculum: Mapping and vertical alignment**
- 3) **Lesson Design: Instructional strategy and lesson structure**

Thank you in advance to our Clearview math teachers for your collaboration and participation. Your continued efforts for professional learning are greatly appreciated!

We will look to conduct similar PD days like this one for other curricular areas on a consistent basis so that such collaboration and articulation can occur for other groups as well.

### **Secondary Math PD Event Next Week!**



#### **Clearview Math PD Participants:**

- ♦ **Sally Roule**
- ♦ **Alex Ritter**
- ♦ **Doug Benzel**
- ♦ **Jennifer Parker**
- ♦ **Kari Cooley**
- ♦ **Deb Molnar**
- ♦ **Stephanie Stillwagon**
- ♦ **Jennifer Farley**
- ♦ **Deb Henderson**
- ♦ **Hannah Weber**
- ♦ **Nick Dimacchia**
- ♦ **Larry Pearson**

**Looking for  
ways to  
improve  
should be an  
expectation,  
not  
something  
that is  
optional.**

~Eric  
Sheninger

#### Upcoming Dates:

- ♦ **2/6: Math PD at ESCLC**
- ♦ **2/8: DMS PT Conferences**
- ♦ **2/15: CHS PT Conferences**
- ♦ **2/15: CHS Gr12 NAEP Testing**
- ♦ **2/20: DMS ELA PD Session #2 at the ESCLC**
- ♦ **3/7: CHS Gr11 ACT Testing**
- ♦ **3/13: DLT Meeting; 8am-3pm; TBA**

#### Durling ELA PD Event Scheduled for February 20th

Another professional development event is scheduled is for our middle school English Language Arts team. On **February 20th** this group (listed in the graphic) will conduct a follow up session to a prior PD conducted back on December 8th. This important work involves the identification and creation of a writing rubric for DMS. Other instructional training and collaboration will continue. It will once again be facilitated by **Kate Hamilton** from State Support Team 2 who has worked with Clearview Schools on a number of literacy events.

#### **DMS ELA PD Participants:**

- ♦ **Turner Jones**
- ♦ **Dustie Cooper**
- ♦ **Amber McEwen**
- ♦ **Pat Bray**
- ♦ **Jenny McMahon**
- ♦ **Jen Koehn**
- ♦ **Karrie Stafford**
- ♦ **Brianna Potts**

## Ohio State Testing Spring 2024 Preparation: Writing Rubrics

Each issue of the Curriculum Connection from now until Spring will contain a section on Ohio State Testing Preparation. I will include details about test scheduling, test preparation, and test background. In this issue I will share the writing rubrics used to score student writing submitted for OST. How are the writing portions scored? Writing rubrics exist for this purpose and can be reviewed for teacher and student preparation. What exists ...

- ♦ **Two writing rubrics grades 3 through 5: Informative and Opinion.**
- ♦ **Two writing rubrics grades 6 through 12: Informative and Argumentative.**

Each rubric describes the score point characteristics across three domains:

- 1) **Purpose, Focus, and Organization;**
- 2) **Evidence and Elaboration; and**
- 3) **Conventions.**

Within the rubric the expectations are identified; this is where teachers can see the OST expectations. The top score is a “4” and the rubric identifies what constitutes a 4, 3, 2, 1, and 0. An example is provided in the graphic of the Score of 4 for Grades 3–5 for Purpose, Focus, and Organization for Opinion writing. The link below will take you to ELA test specifications by grade.

*\*Rubrics are on the last few pages of each!!*

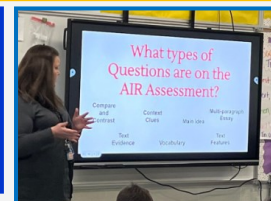
**LINK: Ohio State Test Writing Rubrics for Scoring**

### Ohio's State Test Holistic Opinion Writing Rubric Grades 3-5

Score	Purpose, Focus, and Organization
4	<p>The response is exemplary and reflects original writing throughout that directly addresses the topic. It has a clearly stated opinion and is focused on the audience and purpose of the task. The organizational structure creates clarity and completeness.</p> <p>The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• an opinion that is strongly maintained throughout,</li><li>• little, if any, loosely related material,</li><li>• a clearly evident organizational structure that includes a skillfully crafted introduction and conclusion, and</li><li>• a logical progression of ideas that reflects a skillful use of transitional strategies to move from one idea to another.</li></ul>

## VES Hosts Parent Event on the TGRG

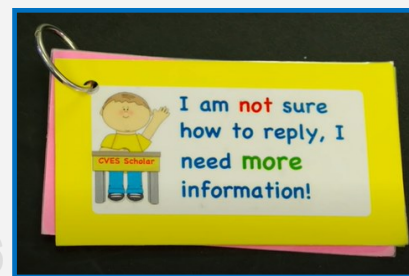
Great example of shared leadership!! This past week on Thursday, **February 1st**, the third grade team at VES conducted an important parent event. In conjunction with Parent Teacher Conferences they gave an informative presentation regarding the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. Principal **Lynne Stark** opened the event then the Grade 3 team took over. They presented details on testing and implications associated. Well Attended!!



## Instructional Strategies Review: Formative Assessment with Participation Cards

In each issue of the Connection I will review a particular instructional strategy: Formative Assessment with Participation Cards. The goal of formative assessment is to monitor student learning to provide ongoing feedback that can be used by teachers to improve their teaching. Is what I am teaching breaking through? A great strategy to use as assessment FOR learning is the use of Participation Cards. Participation cards are a set of colored index cards which have labels on them. I agree, I disagree, or I don't know how to respond. Teachers use the cards to assess students' understanding. It is a quick check for understanding that may be needed prior to moving on in a lesson. The cards can provide more info than a Thumbs Up or Thumps Down approach. The use of cards can also give students a voice. This can especially be true for students that may not feel confident speaking out in front of their peers. Check out the link below from Edutopia for more:

**LINK: Formative Assessment with Participation Cards**



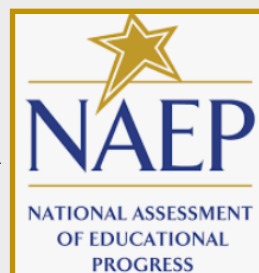
### CHS ACT Testing for All Juniors March 7th

Each year students in grade 11 are afforded an opportunity to engage in ACT Testing through the state. For Clearview High School this year's test administration will be on Thursday, **March 7th**. Arrangements are being made for non-test takers to have a late arrival to accommodate this event for the junior class. In addition, CHS teachers will be required to take a test proctoring training; info to be announced soon. Special thanks to our CHS counselors for their work and planning to administer the ACT, **Carolyn Kazel** and **Joan Keppler**.



### CHS NAEP Testing Conducted on Feb. 15th

The National Assessment of Educational Progress has selected CHS to be part of this year's testing. Often called the Nation's Report Card, stats from testing will be used to identify academic status in the US. CHS seniors have been selected to test in ELA and Math; however, only 50 will be randomly chosen by NAEP to participate. Testing is to take place Thursday, **February 15th**. More to follow. Special thanks again to CHS counselors **Carolyn Kazel** and **Joan Keppler** for efforts to administer.



### House System Quarter Zip Sale Closes February 7th

Thanks to the many Clearview staff members that continue to support our PBIS House System! Our spirit days are filled with many staff wearing their House colors. New to the Clearview House System? Use the link below to see the handbook that covers this exciting PBIS program. As a reminder, we now have a Quarter Zip spirit wear item that will be on sale until next week, **February 7th**. Bulk orders are needed so there is a limited time for this sale. Use the link below to order!!



**LINK: House System Quarter Zip Staff Order Form**

**LINK: Clearview PBIS House System Program Handbook**

### Clearview Gear Up Grant Update!

Clearview is in the third year of a six year grant program, Gear Up. Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a federal program that provides competitive grants to districts to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. Our student cohort is currently in grades 8 and 9.

**Josiah Barnes** from College Now is our in-house Advisor. Here's an update:



- ♦ **Creating exposure opportunities; Planned Spring Break College Tour to Tiffin University**
- ♦ **Supporting Cohorts through classroom workshops and individual advising.**
- ♦ **73% of 9th graders have been seen in a classroom workshop; 90% of 8th graders have been seen in a classroom workshop**
- ♦ **Creation of a new resource for teachers to use: Career and College Clubs, covering topics such as careers, education, peer pressure, and more. It is available to all teachers and staff at Durling Middle School/Clearview High School to use at their discretion. (Designed for 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade). (contact Josiah for more information if interested in accessing this resource)**

### Clearview District of The Year Award Presented!

This past week Clearview Local Schools was awarded the Ohio Leadership Advisory Council District of the Year 2023! It was presented at the kick off to the OLAC/PBIS State Showcase and Conference. The award is a testament to the hard work of all staff in the pursuit of continuous school improvement! Watch here:

**LINK: OLAC Award Presentation Video**

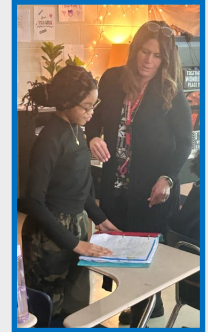




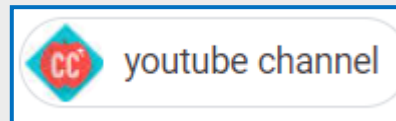
## Active, Engaged, and Innovative Classroom Learning in Clearview!

Each issue of Curriculum Connection will include reports from our classrooms around the district. We want to do our best to promote active, engaged, and innovative lesson plans. What are your colleagues doing to engage Clearview students? The idea is to show appreciation for the hard work it takes to plan and develop such lessons.

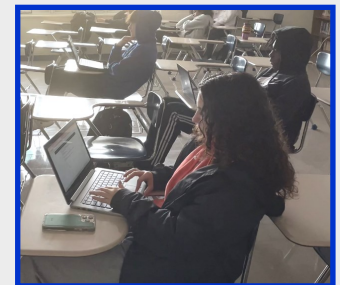
This past Monday I stopped in **Karrie Stafford's** grade 5 ELA class at DMS. Karrie was teaching a unit on opinion writing (check page 2 OST!). For the writing unit she conducted several activities. She conducts a daily grammar activity to strengthen the foundation for the kids' writing skills. Next, kids read an opinion writing example taken from Scholastic Magazine. This served as a model. Karrie also incorporated a Venn Diagram activity where kids had to distinguish between Editing and Revising strategies. Taken from our TpT account, kids then used a graphic organizer for "check" editing; an old bank check picture was actually used in the process! Students were allowed to choose their own writing topic; however, Karrie conducts a writing conference with every student to assess progress for all of their prewriting stages. Nice work!!



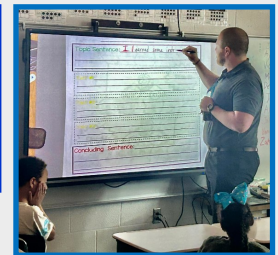
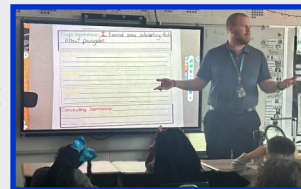
It was great to see a speech presentation assignment for English 10! **Lurlene West** along with Academic Coach **Jenna Horton** are preparing students to present an



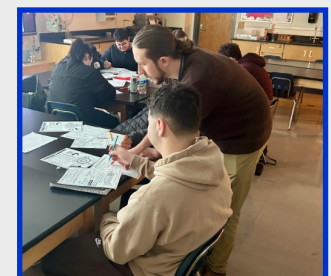
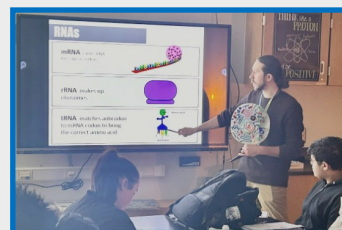
Opinion/Argumentative speech to the class. On the day of my observation, Lurlene was teaching the kids about using proper sources as evidence. She showed two micro-learning videos from YouTube from a learning series called Crash Course. One of the videos covered the use of social media sources and the pitfalls that potentially can exist. Kids will engage in several forms of preparation; they will research and write their speech, then they will present to the class. I loved seeing our Speaking/Presenting and Active Listening criterion skills being taught in Lurlene's classroom. She had them in poster form to use as a reference. Great!



Another awesome ELA writing lesson, this time in grade 2! I made a visit to **Andrew Holland's** classroom this past week where the kids were learning interesting facts about penguins. Andrew was going through a slide presentation on the interactive TV. Penguins have the same mate for life. They have an interesting way to feed their young. Etc. Kids were quite intrigued! Next, Andrew displayed a graphic organizer he modeled for pre-writing. It had a specific space for the intro with thesis, then three separate spaces for facts, and a conclusion box. Andrew put in the facts identified through the slide presentation. Kids were learning how to organize writing so that all of the parts could then be put together for their animal project. Awesome lesson!!



On Thursday I stepped into **Derrick Walter's** Biology class at CHS for a visit. Derrick was introducing a new unit on Protein Synthesis, an important EOC standard. Protein synthesis is the process by which cells make proteins. Derrick was using several strategies to teach the process. He first obtained a effective visual resource from our district TpT account. This included downloadable slides that he used for direct instruction.



Students had both physical and digital copies of the slides available through Derrick's google classroom. Next, Derrick conducted an I Do; We Do; You Do strategy. Kids eventually will be able to conduct the protein synthesis calculation independently. Impressive lesson!!