



CLEARVIEW

Curriculum Connection

Volume 6; Issue 210



February 9, 2024

Clearview District Leadership Team Meeting #3 March 13th!

The Clearview District Leadership Team is scheduled to have their third quarter meeting on Wednesday, **March 13th**, from 8:00am-3:00pm in the CHS Media Center. DLT members are listed in the graphic. ***Please secure your sub in advance to ensure your participation.**

The Clearview DLT meets quarterly to organize and plan for the Ohio Improvement Process. Clearview OIP goals call for improvements in Literacy, Math, and School Climate. Key Initiatives are established annually by each Building Leadership Team, to ensure that a proper focus exists to achieve those goals. **Is each building making progress on their initiatives?** The agenda is currently being planned and will include consistent items as well as a few new items for review.

Significant work has been done this school year to assess our DLT, BLTs, and TBTs. Therefore, one of the agenda items will be an assessment of each Teacher Based Team. Since DLT oversees the BLTs and the BLTs oversee each TBT, professional discussion will take place regarding:

1. Does each TBT meet consistently and document/share minutes?
2. What instructional practices has each TBT focused on?
3. What data is consistently used by each TBT at their meetings?

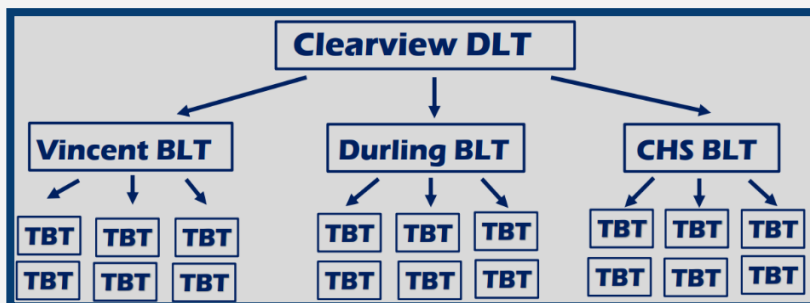
Check out the graphic right that provides a visual of how our OIP process should flow to ensure support and school improvement can exist.

DLT Members:

Jerome Davis
Noeleen Rothacker
Carolyn Kazel
Jason Steadman
Kellie Alston
Joanie Keppler
Wendie Huttenpiller
Jacob Ward

Lurlene West
Mark Majoras
Derrick Walter
Laura Manning
Kari Cooley
Amber McEwen
Jenny McMahon
Jen Smercina
Molly Streater

Molly Klunk
Lynne Stark
Jackie Michalek
Jenn Anderson
Kelly Stephenson
Steph Leonhardt
Jamie Dodson
Sally Roule
Kelly Schenk



Kids are not complicated. They like to feel supported, encouraged, and valued - same as teachers.

~Danny Steele

Upcoming Dates:

- ♦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
- ♦3/18: District PD half day 8am-11am
- ♦3/18: End of 3rd Grading Period

Clearview Use of XtraMath Premium

Math teachers, are you using our district XtraMath Premium account? XtraMath provides digital math **fact fluency** practice for kids for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Our premium account allows for data analytics to check the progress of individual students and whole classes. The account also provides printable resources that can be used for added practice and support. Kids can also earn certificates that can be provided for reinforcement upon successful level skill completion. XtraMath is a key resource that has emerged aligned to our goals to improve math academic performance. The XtraMath App is available for teachers and students through Clever.



Ohio State Testing Spring 2024 Preparation: Test Schedule and Test Atmosphere

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 state testing dates that have been selected for the district. Dates are listed in the graphic. School principals will work with their staff regarding test logistics and organization. This is an important task. The better the testing organization the better our kids will perform. Also, the better the testing atmosphere the better our kids will perform. Proper testing logistics along with proper test atmosphere can positively impact student mindset. Such attention to detail includes everything from providing a breakfast to providing a positive message for kids to feel supported on test days. A big difference maker for some kids for OST will simply be the positive mindset of their teachers and test proctors. Therefore, display encouragement while preparing for OSTs; let them view it as a challenge that they can master. Identify their prior scores and set goals for personal improvement. "This is the score you received last year ...; let's set this new higher score as a goal to obtain this year." Plan in advance for room setup and identify in advance the building/classroom rules governing test atmosphere. All of these factors make a difference for overall student performance on the OSTs.

Clearview Spring 2024 OST Schedule!

VINCENT ELEMENTARY:

ELA GR3: **APRIL 16TH & 18TH**

ELA GR4: **APRIL 16TH & 18TH**

MATH GR3: **APRIL 23RD & 24TH**

MATH GR4: **APRIL 23RD & 24TH**

DURLING MIDDLE SCHOOL:

ELA: **APRIL 15TH & 16TH**

MATH: **APRIL 17TH**

SCIENCE: **APRIL 18TH**

CLEARVIEW HIGH SCHOOL:

ENG II: **APRIL 17 & 18TH**

GEOMETRY: **APRIL 16TH**

ALGEBRA: **APRIL 25TH**

BIOLOGY: **APRIL 24TH**

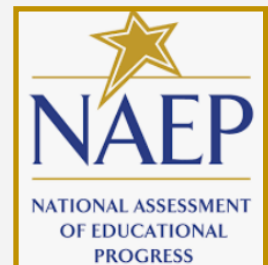
US HIST: **APRIL 23RD**

GOVT: **APRIL 30TH**



Clearview High School Selected for NAEP Testing; February 15th

The National Assessment of Educational Progress has selected CHS to be part of this year's national testing. Often called the Nation's Report Card, NAEP testing stats identify student academic achievement in content areas throughout the country. CHS seniors have been selected and will test in ELA and Math; however, only 50 students will be chosen by NAEP to participate. Testing is scheduled for Thursday, **February 15th**. Special thanks to CHS counselors **Carolyn Kazel** and **Joan Keppler** for test management!!



Instructional Strategies Review: Strategies for Productive Struggle to Enhance Learning

In each issue of the Connection I will review a particular instructional strategy: **Strategies for Productive Struggle**. I have heard the frustration many times, "Students give up too easily." "If kids get stuck on a question they quit." etc. Productive struggle means developing strong habits of mind, such as perseverance and thinking flexibly, instead of simply seeking the correct answer. It's stamina to work through a difficult learning task. How can a teacher help kids develop strength for productive struggle? It can be facilitated. Check out the article link below that reviews the science behind this concept. It reviews a great research example with a bean bag toss experiment that illustrates the concept. It also reviews a section for 4 strategies to facilitate such a mindset summarized in the graphic right:

LINK: Strategies for Productive Struggle

1. **Retrieval** - Frequent practice tests force the retrieval of memories, telling the brain to make those signals more permanent.
2. **Interleaving** - Alternate learning topics; ask students to use their long-term memory instead of solely relying on recent material.
3. **Spacing** - Distribute practice evenly over time; students benefit more from frequent, shorter sessions than from longer ones.
4. **Mindfulness** - Taking a few minutes to breathe and pay attention to the present moment isn't just relaxing, it's also a skill in itself.

Vincent Elementary Sets Up PBIS Resource to Assist with Student Behaviors

The improvement of School Climate is a district goal identified through the Ohio Improvement Process. One of the important aspects of that goal is addressing difficult student behaviors in the classroom. It is easy to simply complain about student misbehavior, the lack of effective consequences, and the difficulty managing classroom disruption. Such a topic will always be a challenge in schools. However, PBIS is the right approach. It is proactive instead of reactive and seeks to teach desired student behaviors and set the school's behavioral expectations.

An example of a **proactive approach** is happening at VES. Third grade teacher **Nick Guerrieri** leads their PBIS committee. Nick recently created a PBIS resource for VES teachers to be released soon; it is a google classroom site that contains a wealth of ideas to assist teachers with challenging student classroom behaviors. Awesome Nick!! Resource sections include:

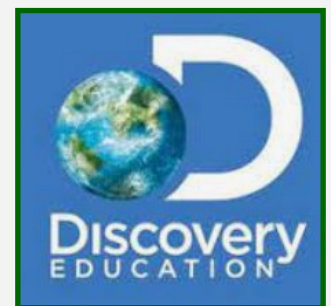
- ♦ **Intro to PBIS** - links that contain an overview of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports
- ♦ **30 Second PD** - contains videos such as "Eliminate these two words" and "Prevention Phrases"
- ♦ **Podcasts** - contains topics such as "How to Reduce Shouting Out in Class" and "#1 Strategy for Oppositional Defiant Kids"
- ♦ **Mendler Matters** - Video links from **Brian Mendler**, a dynamic educational presenter on the topic of dealing with student behaviors. Examples provided include: "What to do when a kid freaks out" and "Two Words to Diffuse Students"
- ♦ **Helpful Articles** - links to articles that include examples such as, "Dealing with Defiant Kids" and "Managing Aggressive Children"
- ♦ **Classroom Management Hacks** - Short video links include examples such as "How to Manage Disrespectful Students" and "Managing Child Meltdowns and Tantrums"
- ♦ **Disruption** - contains videos on the topic of class disruption such as "How to Teach Attention" and "Good Consequences are Connected to the Offense."
- ♦ **Behavior Skill Slides** - contains student skill cards for topics such as "Being Prepared" and "Getting an Adult's Attention"
- ♦ **Ted Talks Behavior Management** - Awesome Ted Talk video links to assist teachers with classroom behavioral issues.
- ♦ **Calming Workspace Backgrounds** - contains links to calming noise videos that can be played in the classroom.

Kudos to Nick and the PBIS team at Vincent for their proactive approach. This is an example why **Avon City Schools** sent a team of educators to VES this past week on **February 7th** to learn about Clearview's PBIS program. Other districts learning from Clearview!!



Clearview Discovery Education Resource

Often an underutilized resource that is available at both DMS and CHS is Discovery Education. Discovery Education is a multimedia platform offering Clipper teachers and students a wide variety of video content, lesson plans, quiz-generating features, and other standards-aligned educational tools, including virtual labs and interactive simulations. The Clearview teachers that use it often can attest to the content that it provides. As another option for classroom learning activity, consider reviewing this resource as you plan. The middle school subscription was recently renewed; therefore, content will once again be available for staff and students. The Discovery Education app can be accessed through Clever.



Parent Contact Information Request

As requested in the past, please email your parents' contact information to me. This is not for any solicitation, etc. Information is simply be used as a PBIS activity for staff. If your parents have unfortunately passed; please provide a spouse or family contact. PBIS is not just for the students; staff support and reinforcement is also important! Thank you

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.

Hot Fries!! This past Monday I stopped in **Amber McEwen's** grade 7 ELA class at DMS. Amber was starting an argumentative writing unit with her students. She is teaching the kids about opinion writing techniques and strategies. Helpful info for the OSTs!

Why?!



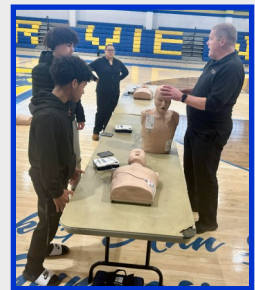
For an interesting anticipatory set she showed a video on the current craze regarding Hot Fries or Flaming

Cheetos. In the last few years kids seem to be obsessed with them. I

know you all have seen the bags throughout our hallways. This got the kids attention! Are they safe? What are the health risks? Are kids wrongly targeted for sales? Should kids be allowed to eat them in class? After the video many opinions started to formulate. This was the motivation Amber was looking for to incorporate into a writing product! Great lesson!

CHS Health and Physical Education teacher **Keith Whitman** is to be

commended for his efforts to once again collaborate with University Hospital for student CPR training. This past week approximately 150 students at CHS were certified in CPR as a result. UH staff came to CHS on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday and provided the training for our HPE classes. Kids had to be present for each of the three days and pass a test to receive certification. Training



included the Bee Gee's "Stayin' Alive" song used as a CPR timing mechanism. It also included training in the use of automated external defibrillators or AEDs. The UH staff provided all of the manikins and equipment required for training. Great to see this important life-saving learning opportunity provided for our students!! Thanks Keith!!



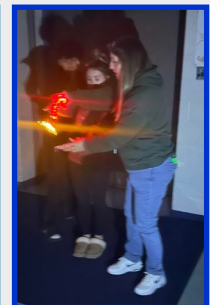
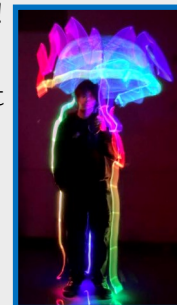
Busy classroom!! I stopped into **Haley Bednarski's** 4th grade classroom this past week where she had kids engaged in differentiated activities. Haley was leading a small group math lesson using a TpT resource that had the theme of a pet shelter. She was providing support for various story problems and other standard calculations. Academic



Coach **Catherine Wenzell** was assisting students working independently engaged in the same packet. For calculations kids were using a mini-whiteboard to show their work. And VES tutor **Nicole Simon** was stationed in the back of the room doing one-on-one sight word practice with kids using flash cards. Engaged students and teachers in this class!!



Light Painting! I stopped into **Wendy Golski's** Digital Photography class this past Wednesday to observe a lesson on the Exposure Triangle. In photography, the exposure triangle explains the relationship between shutter speed, International Standard of Measurement (ISO), and aperture (size of opening in camera lens).



Understanding it helps determine how a picture will look before it is taken. Kids were creating photos using an app that allowed for long exposure. They had to work cooperatively to identify the best light options for creativity with various lights that Wendy provided. Wow!! Great pics!!

Check This Out!!

More Awesome Classroom Visits!! ...

I stopped into **Marci Southard's** grade 7 science classroom this past week for a photosynthesis lesson, an important science standard. Marci planned a lab activity where kids got the opportunity to use microscopes. She used a reliable resource containing a pamphlet directing kids through the observation of film inserted into the microscope. The film contained 8 different leaf examples. The kids had to use critical thinking skills to identify and analyze the parts of the leaf responsible for photosynthesis. Marci provided specific directions and steps to follow as the kids worked with a partner. It was great to see the kids having discussions on what they were viewing through their microscopes!! Great lab - Great lesson!!



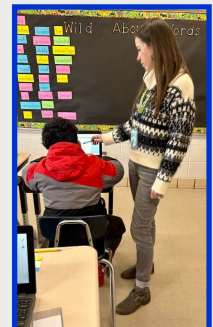
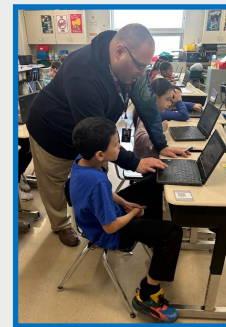
Lord of the Manor!! In another grade 7 classroom this past week Social Studies teacher **Kaylee Green** led an interesting lesson on Feudalism and The Manor System from the Middle Ages. Feudalism was the way medieval Europeans organized power and government. Manorialism was the way they organized their economy. This system was based on the manor, a large estate that included farm fields, pastures, and often an entire village. Mrs. Green provided examples and characteristics then the kids were tasked with creating their own visual as a reference. The visual had to contain details that identified student knowledge of the system. Art combined with learning content!!



Kudos to **Denise Bevins** and the work she is doing with her student teacher **Meghan Jancsura** at VES. Clearview has an awesome relationship with Ashland University for field placements. This largely due to the experience gained. Case in point, last Friday I was invited to Denise's grade 2 classroom to tour a baseball museum. Meghan transformed the room for the activity; this added to the kids' enthusiasm and excitement for a lesson on informational text. Tickets were even printed and scanned. Tour guide Meghan enthusiastically led kids through the "museum" stations containing baseball memorabilia. Kids were tasked with reading passages at each; comprehension practiced. Fun and informative!!



I was able to see a third grade classroom engaged in an XtraMath session this past week (see page 1). I made a stop into **Nick Guerrieri's** classroom where he was team teaching with **Kelly Schenk**. Kids were returning from recess and Nick gave the directive to log into XtraMath - you could tell the kids had done this before. In fact, VES students engage in XtraMath fact fluency practice 20 minutes per day to strengthen skills as part of their daily schedule. Both Nick and Kelly rotated around the room assisting and encouraging kids. I even got to witness a student earn a certificate for reaching a particular level. The digital program gives a notice of celebration. Nick informed me that he is able to see the progress of his students as a whole class and analyze their strengths and weaknesses. This is due to our Premium account access. Nice work Kelly and Nick!!



Continue to send class invites so that we can share and build capacity for lesson ideas!