

Building a Plan for Professional Learning: A Blueprint for Student Success

Vernon Parish ELA Professional Learning Plan 2016-217

Overview:

Based on data at the end of the 2015/2016 school year, Vernon Parish School District developed a plan for professional learning designed to align with the district vision and goals. They began by selecting a professional learning provider based on a set of criteria. They wanted the provider to have deep content knowledge in ELA, deep knowledge of the Louisiana State Standards, deep knowledge of the Louisiana Learn Zillion, and exemplary practice with adult learning. After selecting the external provider, they worked together to create a plan for the professional learning across the year. The district vision called for a focus on supporting ELA teachers in their ability to plan, teach, and assess with a focus on Standards, researched best practices, and implementation of the Louisiana LearnZillion Curriculum. The following is a layout of the final plan.

| WHO | WHEN/FREQUENCY | DESCRIPTION/PURPOSE OF WORK |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principals and Assistant Principals | One time session | All school leaders had a half-day session early in the fall to get an overview of the PL plan for the year. |
| External Provider and Project Leader | Three Times Across the Year | Walk through classrooms to analyze and assess level of implementation and needs for professional learning. School principals and assistant principals are encouraged to walk with the provider and project leader. The project leader and external provider meet to debrief and discuss strengths and needed next steps. |
| Single Grade Level ELA Teachers Grades 3-12 | One Full Day Session | Every grade 3-12 receives a full day of professional learning focused on planning, teaching, and assessing with a special focus on Louisiana State Standards, researched best practices in instruction, and LearnZillion ELA Curriculum. |
| Fifth Grade Cohort | Five Half-Day Sessions Across the Year | The fifth grade cohort meets five times across the year to participate in professional learning focused on planning, teaching, and assessing with a special focus on Louisiana State Standards, researched best practices in instruction, and LearnZillion ELA Curriculum. |
| Teacher Leaders Grades 3-5 and 6-12 | Five Half-Day Sessions Across the Year | The teacher leader cohorts meet five times across the year to participate in professional learning focused on planning, teaching, and assessing with |

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| | | a special focus on Louisiana State Standards, researched best practices in instruction, and LearnZillion ELA Curriculum. The sessions are designed for redelivery at the school level either in PLC, whole staff, or grade level meetings. Teacher Leaders share their successes and progress at the beginning of each session and between sessions via Google Docs. |
| Science and SS Middle School Teachers | Two Half-Day Sessions | Science and SS teachers participate in a half-day professional learning session in which they receive extra support around Louisiana Standards and text-based writing strategies in the content area. |
| Central Office Leadership and External Provider | Six Times | The external provider and central office leaders meet during each visit to discuss progress of the professional learning. This communication and collaboration is critical to success of the project. |
| Central Office Leaders and School Principals | | Central Office Leaders and School Principals walk classrooms frequently to assess for implementation of the strategies being learned in professional learning. They debrief to assess for strengths and next steps. |