



HPS Compass

MINUTE

A MINUTE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE Hull Public Schools

Monthly Staff Newsletter

VOLUME 2/ISSUE 3
November 2023

Dates to Remember

November

- 10 Veterans Day Observed – No School
- 13 Community Outreach Forum – 5:30 pm
- 13 School Committee Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 15 MMS Parent/Teacher Conferences – 5:30 to 8:30 pm
- 16 90 Minute Early Release MMS & HHS Parent Teacher Conferences – afternoon
- 16 HHS Parent/Teacher Conferences – 5:30 to 8:30 pm
- 17 HHS Theatre Arts – Urinetown – 7:00 pm
- 18 Urinetown – 2:00 and 7:00 pm
- 19 Urinetown – 2:00 pm
- 22 Early Release – No lunch
- 23 Thanksgiving – No School
- 24 No School
- 27 School Committee Meeting 6:30 pm
- 29 Jacobs Early Release Teacher Collaboration 12:15 pm

HULL PIRATE PRIDE - Together We Make A Difference

In just a year's time, our school community will have transformed into a Pre-K through 7 and 8 through 12 district, marking an exciting new chapter in our journey and you will have a new superintendent. While we've invested significant time and effort into planning for this transition, we understand that unforeseen challenges and surprises may arise along the way. Despite any unexpected twists and turns, we are fully committed to working together as a cohesive team, just as we did during Phase 1 of the school reconfiguration.

Here's what we've done already and going forward:

- Weekly planning meeting with Phase 2 leadership team
- September 26 email communication with 7th & 8th grade parents
- October 25 Superintendent Phase 2 update/discussion with MMS staff
- November survey for 7th & 8th grade students and families seeking input on transition sent by HHS principal
- November 20 Superintendent Phase 2 update/discussion with HHS staff
- January 9 transition meeting for 7th & 8th grade parents at HHS
- March 2024 MMS faculty & staff notification of building assignments for 2024-2025 school year
- Time scheduled with Principal Knybel and Principal Shaw for 7th & 8th grade teams and specialists

Teaching is a challenging profession, yet it remains incredibly rewarding due to the profound impact educators like you have on their students' lives. The significance of your role cannot be overstated, and it is essential to convey how deeply your dedication is appreciated by administrators, parents, and, most importantly, your students.

I have had the privilege of witnessing your dedication and passion in action. Your influence on both your students and your fellow educators has been inspiring and will continue to resonate with me long after I move on.

- Judy Kuehn





Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth (MPY)'s On-Demand Library contains 58 presentations facilitated by MPY's renowned speakers. The On-Demand Library allows MPY members the flexibility to engage in professional development on a broad range of topics at their convenience. The Library is part of MPY's new website's (www.mpyinc.org) members-only section. All videos can be viewed by logging in with your username and password and then selecting the On-Demand Library button on the home page. Or Click [Here](#)

PDPs and CEUs are not available through the On-Demand Library.

Please contact Margie Daniels, Executive Director, at margie@mpyinc.org with any questions.

Superintendent Search Timeline

- October 10:** NESDEC Orientation by Dr. Frieswyk at School Committee meeting
- October 19:** Dr. Frieswyk lead focus groups in Hull to gather input from parents, principals, teachers, and community members. She shared a summary of input gained from the focus groups to School Committee and added their input
- October 20:** Finalized results of focus groups, School Committee input and online survey results for Successful Candidate Profile, to be used by screening committee
- November 1:** Ms. Kyle Conley officially extended offers to join the Screening Committee
- December 4:** The screening committee will review applicants and determine who to interview
- Between December 11 and 15:** The screening committee will Interview candidates
- January 2:** The School Committee will receive an orientation prior to interviews with the final candidates
- Between January 8 and 12:** Final Interviews with School Committee

The 12 member Screening Committee is inclusive of multiple perspectives, experiences, and current roles in our community. They represent (people can represent more than one group):

- 2 HHS Staff
- 2 MMS Staff
- 2 JES Staff
- 3 District Admin
- 3 Parents
- 4 Community Reps
- 1 School Committee Member



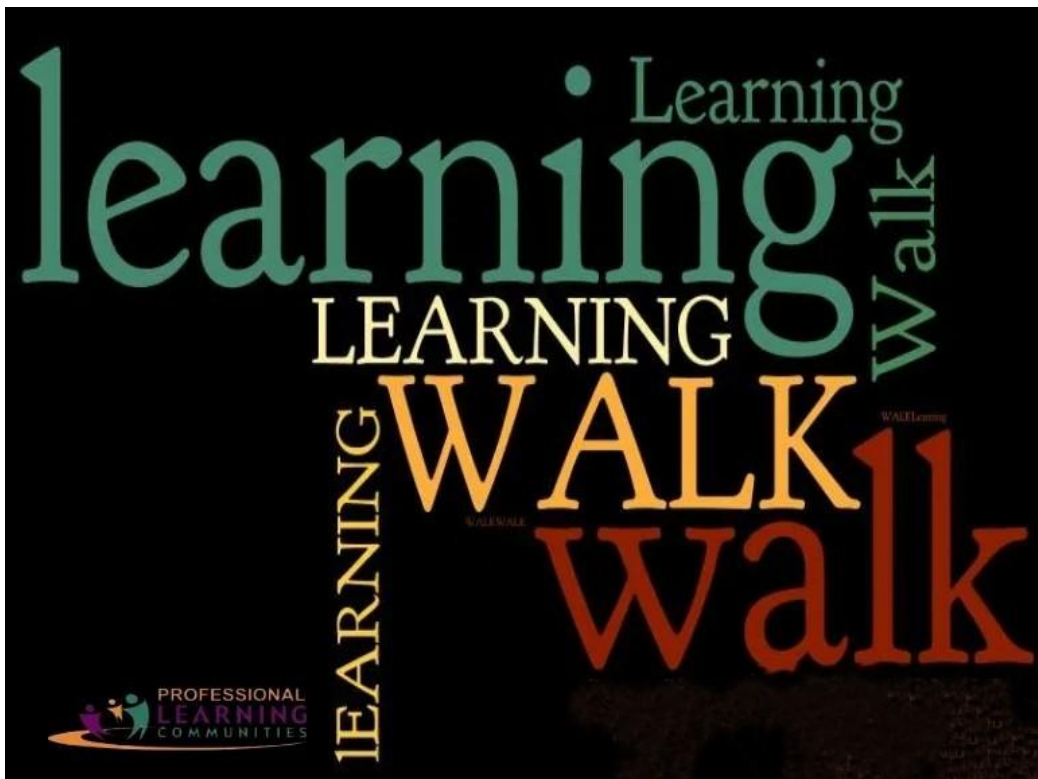
Themes for 2023 - 2024 School Year

- Hull Pirate Pride
- Stronger Together
- Meeting Students Where They Are
- Elevating Student Voices

Pineapple Project



The pineapple project provides opportunities for educators to visit classrooms and see the amazing things that happen in classrooms each day. Principals will be introducing the pineapple project during November.



Remaining Learning Walk Dates

- November 14, 2023 - JES
- December 6, 2023 - MMS
- January 24, 2024 - MMS
- February 7, 2024 - HHS
- March 13, 2024 - JES

Teacher Learning Walks

Current learning walks with leadership and consultants will expand in the 2024 - 2025 school year to include teachers. More information will be provided on the structure of these learning walks during the spring of 2024.

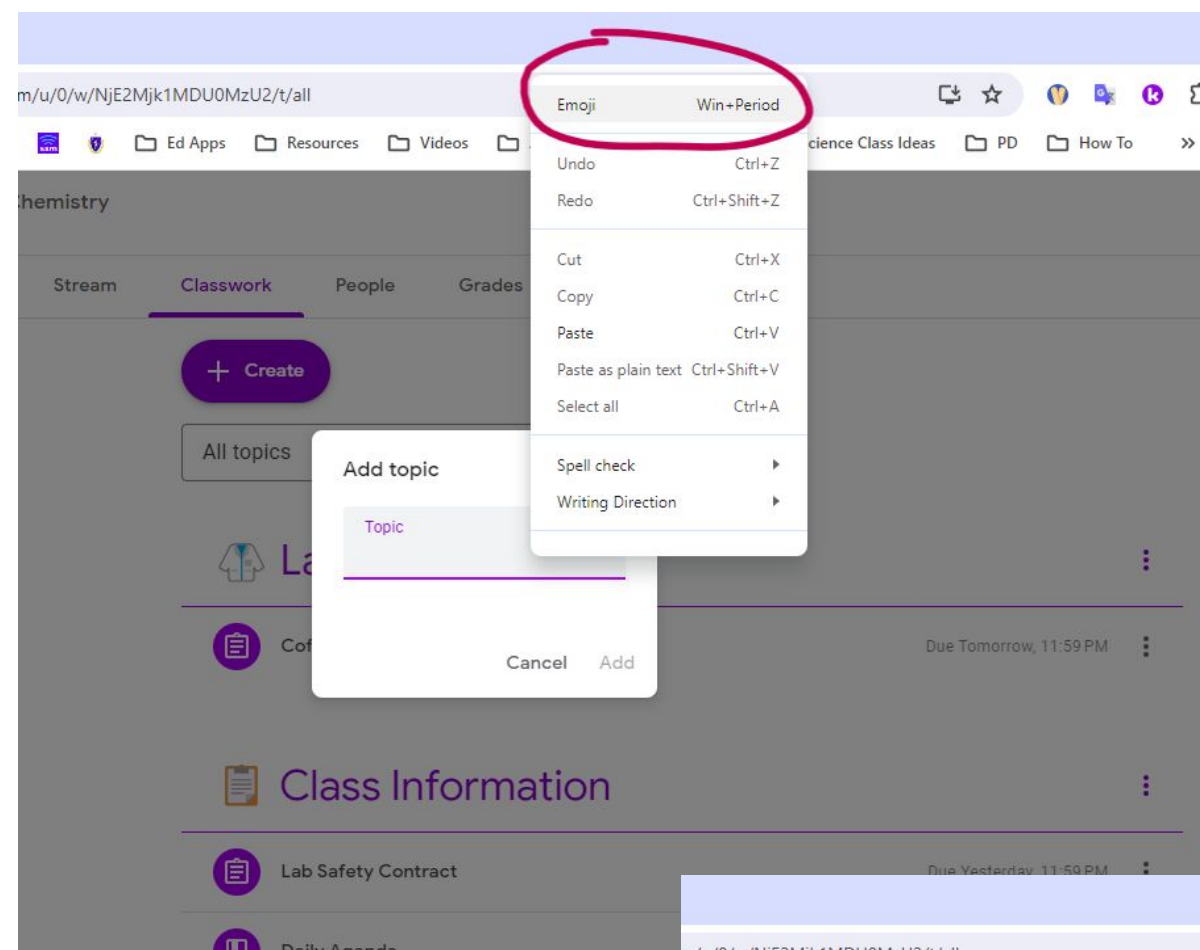


Use Emojis to Help Organize Google Classroom

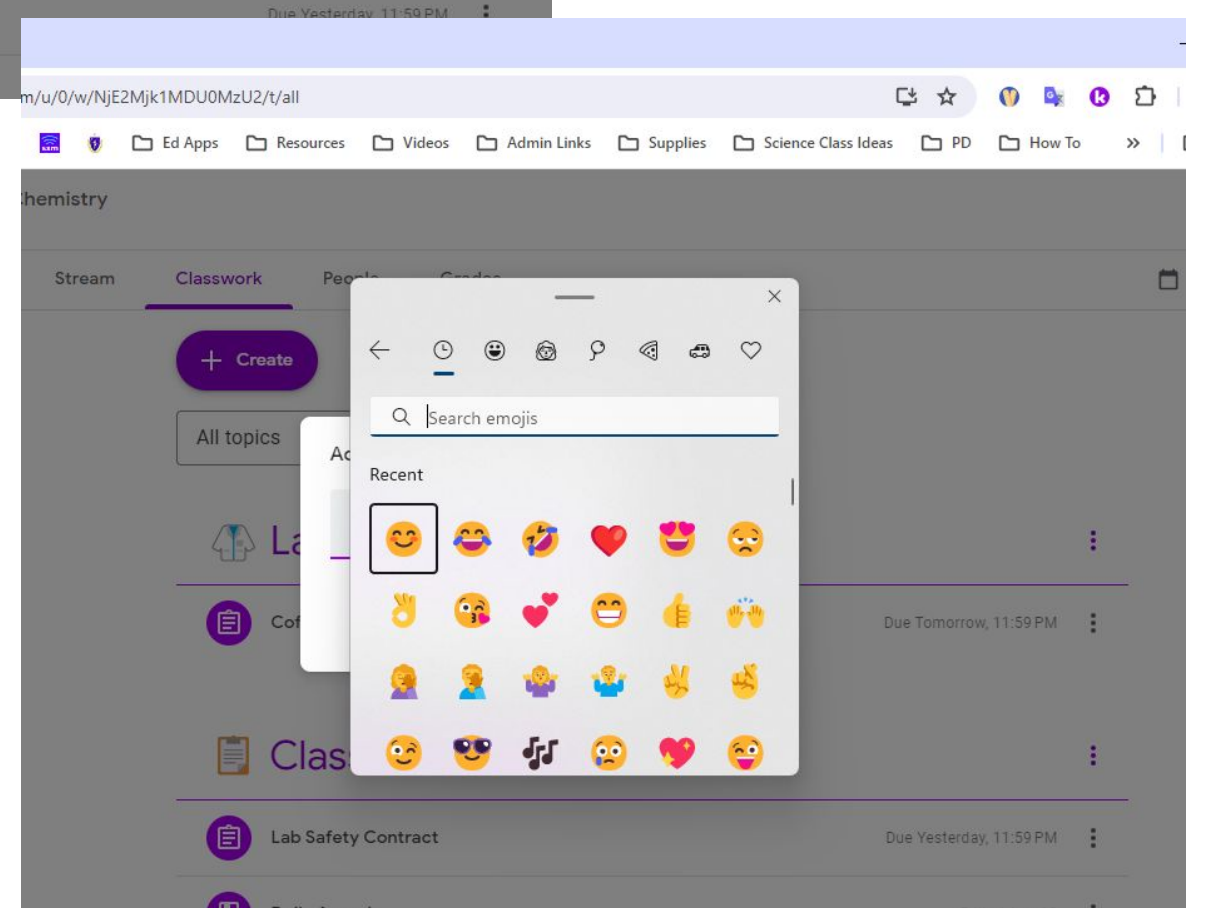
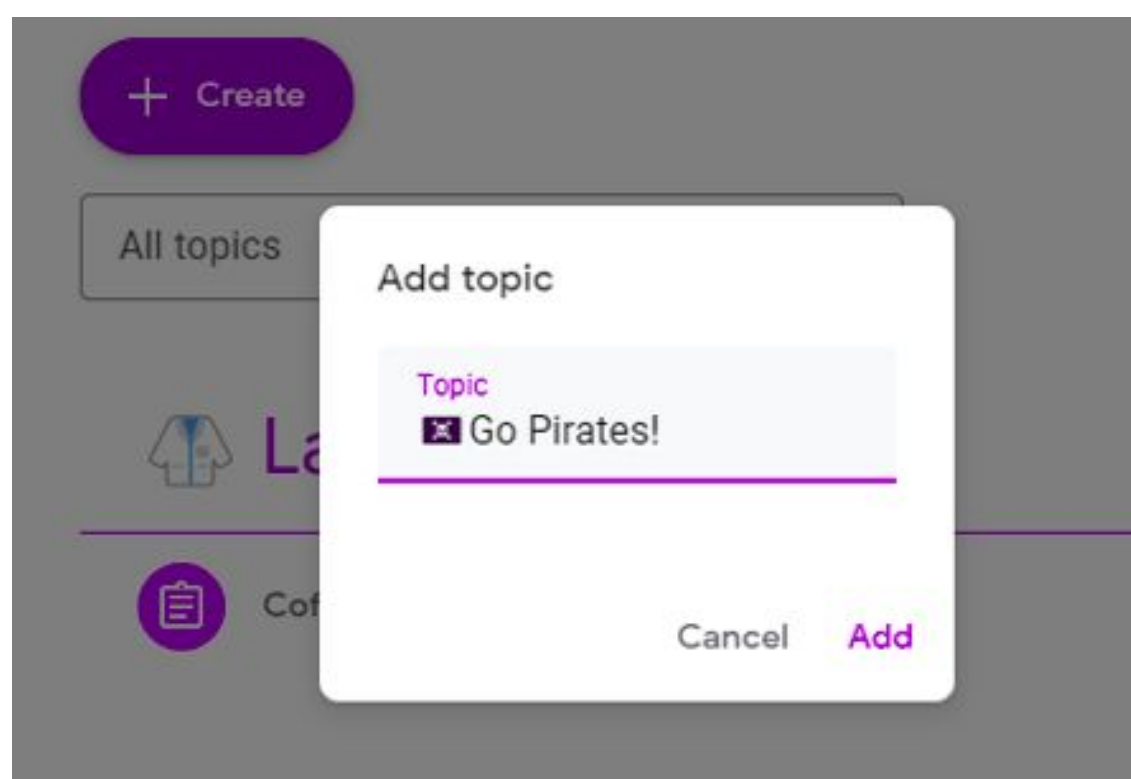


Did you know that you can embed emojis into text almost anywhere on Google Classroom? Emojis can be helpful when organizing topics and assignments, but they can also be useful when posting comments and messages too!

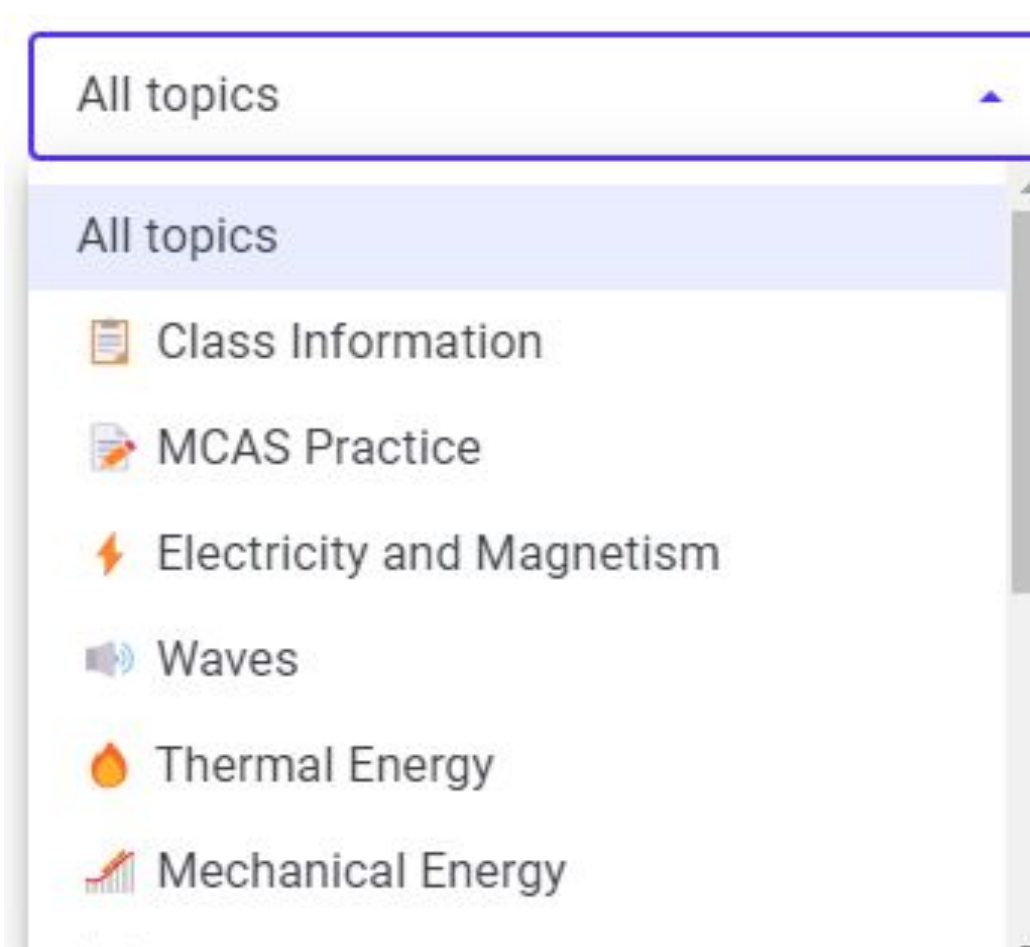
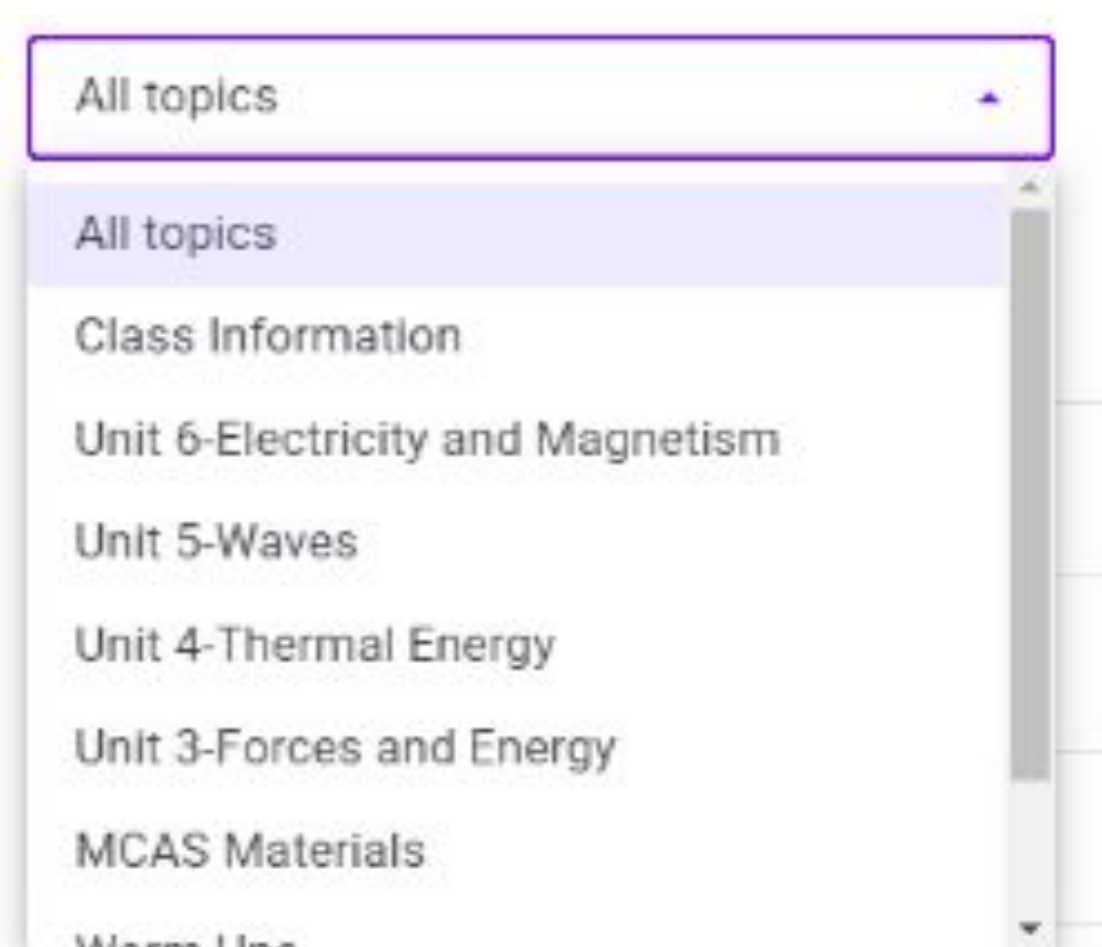
To add emojis, right click (or double finger tap a trackpad) in a text field to bring up a context sensitive menu. The emoji menu should appear at the top. Next, enter the emoji menu and select an emoji to insert. Google periodically adds new emojis to choose from!



Here's an example of a topic that has an emoji added:



Emojis can make it easier for students to navigate topics and assignments on Google Classroom, and they can also make it easier for teachers to post materials. Here's an example of the visual difference emojis can make:



PDP Opportunities

As part of recertification, the following is required:

15 PDPs for SEI/ ESL

15 PDPs for students with disabilities and diverse learning styles

Here are some suggestions.

Massachusetts Inclusive Practices

The course registration link can be found in the middle of this page. This course is self-paced.

Last call- participation in a district-based EL Committee led by Kristen Ryan

Instructional Practices for English Learners Committee Responses due before November 16. PD sessions will begin in January.

Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth

While there are many courses provided by MPY, here are a few recommendations.

- Trauma Sensitive Schools (Begins Dec 8th)
- Using Trauma-informed, Proactive Sensory Regulation Strategies in the Classroom (Begins January 5)
- Meeting the Needs of All Students Through a Multi-tiered System (Begins January 23)
- Special Education from Then (1974) to Now- How it has Evolved (Begins April 22, 2024)

For Paraprofessionals

- Paraprofessional Toolkit Begins (February 28)

These sessions are “live” over 5 weeks from 3:00- 5:00 pm and will not be recorded.

Paraprofessionals will be compensated at the contract rate for their participation in the 10 hours upon submission of a certificate of completion.

For Physical Education/Wellness Teachers

SHAPE America offers self-paced online courses that could be combined with practical hours to fulfill the 15 PDP requirement for students with disabilities and diverse learning styles.

IEP Improvement Project

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has confirmed full implementation of the the new IEP form for the 2024-2025 school year.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has released grant monies to support districts in the implementation of the new IEP format.

To foster consistent implementation of the new IEP format, we are establishing a committee of professionals to support one another by developing the protocols that work for our district.

This committee will include 6-8 staff from varied grade levels and areas of expertise. Should there be more interest than available spots, participants will be chosen based on their area of expertise and grade level in order to create a balanced team. Educators will be compensated at the contract rate for their participation. General education teachers are encouraged to participate.

Please share your interest [here](#) before **November 10** for grant planning. Committee work will start in January.

We have done much work to prepare for this new IEP form including:

- Consistent use of parent input forms prior to each initial, reeval, annual meeting. This information is included in team meeting notes and the IEP.
- Consistent use of student interviews prior to each initial, reeval and annual meeting. This information is included in the team meeting notes and IEP.
- Training specific to goal writing and progress monitoring.

Click [here](#) for more information regarding the IEP Improvement Project.





A big shout out to the incredible Jacobs staff for their unwavering commitment to the successful implementation of the new ELA curriculum! Your dedication, hard work, and perseverance in learning and teaching with integrity have not gone unnoticed.

Transitioning to a new curriculum can be a challenging and demanding process, but your passion for education and your love for our students have shone through. You've embraced this change with enthusiasm and have wholeheartedly invested in our students' learning journey.

Your efforts have not only made the transition smoother but have also enriched the educational experience for our students.

Thank you for your hard work, your innovative teaching, and your unwavering dedication to our students' success. Your commitment to the new ELA curriculum is making a significant impact, and we can't wait to see the continued growth and achievements it brings. Keep up the outstanding work!



Professional Development Committee

The PD Committee consisting of Nancy LeBlanc, Erin O'Duggan, Faith Martin, Anna Wilson, Kate McMurdie, Kesley Quinn, Teddi Cowden, Judy Kuehn, Christine Cappadona, and Kristen Ryan met on October 25. The agenda for our meeting consisted of an in-depth analysis of the professional development (PD) programs that have been conducted across the district over the past five years. We also brainstormed a list of potential topics for future PD sessions. The atmosphere in the room was a sense of enthusiasm and positivity emanating from every member of the group.



We are excited to announce that our district has adopted the use of IXL in grades 6 through 12, specifically for content areas in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. IXL is an innovative and effective online educational platform designed to support and enhance student learning experience in these critical subjects. IXL will serve as a supplemental resource for both in-class and at-home learning. Teachers may assign specific IXL exercises to complement classroom instruction, reinforce learning, and prepare for assessments. This tool will also be available for independent study and practice.

The three Spanish teachers are currently piloting a new Spanish curriculum, Encuentros.

