

Middle Level Principals Meeting Tuesday, December 15, 2015

Précis

Updates

- SED [Update](#)
- [Information](#) about APPR

Meeting Topics

- **Standards**
 - What are middle-level schools doing for new standards in:
 - Social studies
 - Trying two inquiries in each grade
 - Others piloting one inquiry
 - 7th and 8th grade starting to add to their curriculum
 - Some beginning shifts and re-alignment in 9th and 10th grade
 - Starting with 7th and 8th grade, trying to create an experience that includes some PBL and inquiry
 - 5th and 6th grade starting later
 - First reaction to inquiries was that they are a curriculum – now realizing that they aren't curricula nor are the inquiries really inquiry.
 - Science
 - Not too much yet
 - Leadership looking at the draft and framework
 - We need to provide feedback to the state about grade-level definitions at the middle-level
 - What are middle-level schools doing with regard to math:
 - Acceleration continues to be a focus of concern
 - Enrich all in 6th, 7 & 8 in 7th grade, all in 8th grade
 - How do students who are accelerated do on A2?
 - Acceleration is now a family decision rather than entrance requirements
 - Double acceleration is on the increase in some places
 - Is *anyone* aware of a school that feels they have a good acceleration scheme?
 - Anyone using "Math Space" which is computer-driven?
 - What are middle-level schools doing with regard to ELA:
 - Nothing new
 - Workshop model in some
 - About 90 minute blocks in some areas
 - Modules in 5th, workshop in 6th, two periods in ELA

- **Middle-Level Liaisons Meeting Report**
 - South Orangetown Middle School EE:STW shared their RTI program. Everyone has an “IEP” and received personalized learning. Their forms and plans are on their website. They reported good results.
 - SED explained the system of scale scores.

- **Roundtable**
 - Common Intervention periods in the day?
 - AIS scheduled for some students
 - Solvay has a common intervention block by grade level, adjusting group every 3-4 weeks
 - After school time is available for small group reinforcement
 - Schedules
 - Schedule is still tough
 - Many requirements
 - One school has one self-contained class in 5th grade while others are teamed. There is no homework in that class, and so far the STAR results are way ahead of all of the other classrooms. This is the second year they have seen that trend. Hmm...

Future meetings (and locations)

- February 3, 9-10:30a, Science Center Conference Room
- March 31, 9-10:30a, Rodax 8 Small Conference Room
- May 26, 9-10:30a, Owasco Conference Room, Main Campus