

**Middle Level Principals Meeting
Thursday, February 5, 2015**

Précis

Updates

- SED Update for January and February

Meeting Topics

- **Standards-Based Grading and Reporting**
 - Updates from buildings
 - Tom Gusky and Lee Ann Jung here on November 3rd
- **PBL for Principals**
 - Resources from presentation:
 - [Slides](#)
 - Article: [The Main Course, Not Dessert](#)
 - Administrator courses [overview](#)
 - Entry Event [letter](#)
 - PBL school [rubric](#)
 - PBL essentials [checklist](#)
 - Notes from presentation:
 - Some schools have been completely trained.
 - Even in units that are not Full-PBL there are pieces and parts of PBL that make every unit better. There are more interdisciplinary lessons than ever.
 - Coaching really makes a difference. It can get a team back on track when they are struggling.
 - A flexible-block schedule enables the team of teachers to use time creatively.
 - It is important that teachers have unpacked their standards in order to ensure that projects are standards-based.
 - Good PBL units are planned with a standards-based, backward design approach.
 - If the standards-based approach isn't adhered to a project, it can get out of control.
- **Regional Vision for PBL and New Tech Network Schools**
 - [Innovation Tech](#) is up and running
 - New Tech High School @ Hartnett plans are proceeding for a September 2016 opening.
 - PBLNY 2015 is August 3-5, 2015
 - PBL 101 cohorts being added
 - PBL Primer for Principals at our next meeting
- **Prevention Network of CNY**
 - Phil Rose distributed information about a number of resources:
 - A [summary of statistics](#) from the recent PRIDE survey

- Their “You Can’t Afford to be Clueless” [video](#) available on-line. It’s a video about underage drinking and drug use that is made for parents.
- “Healthy Choices and the Negative Impact of Alcohol & Other Drugs on Athletic Performance” is an [educational presentation](#) that is available, at no charge, for parents and/or athletes.
- [LifeSkills Training](#) is available at a nominal cost. It is a skills-based program designed to promote positive health and personal development for middle school youth. The training is free; districts have to buy the student workbooks.

Future meetings (and locations)

- Tuesday, March 24, 2015 Topic: Checking in on where we are with ELA and math curricular and resources. Revisit the regional spreadsheet.
- Thursday, May 21, 2015 – meeting topic?
- Cortland-Area meetings? How did people respond?