

**Middle Level Principals Meeting
Tuesday, March 24, 2015**

Précis

Updates

- SED [Update](#), including information about
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - Arts
 - Accountability
 - School Counselors
 - Part 154 Changes
- Regional Summer School
 - 3 blocks being offered at all sites.
 - Support for SWDs will include 3 parts: consultation, testing center, and extra support block (available as needed and is district decision).
 - Support for ENLs/ELLs will include consultation (coordinating translators/interpreters, etc.) and testing center.
 - Management system will be Summer School SIS - Districts will be able to access attendance, grades, and download various reports.
 - District decision about what courses will be offered to their students in specific district brochures.
 - Training for School Counselors/Guidance Counselors will take place between April 27 and May 15. Administrators are encouraged to attend the training.

Meeting Topics

- **Report from Middle-Level Liaisons Meeting**
 - Steve Dunham reported on the meeting (he represents the BOCES to the Liaisons)
 - It is expected that districts will be on “lists” as participation rate becomes a multi-year issue. It is not clear what penalties or requirements would be.
 - There are many resources at NYSMSA.org for middle-level schools
 - The implementation of RTI
 - Varies greatly from school to school
 - Some schools are flexible about it, others have a rigid schedule that makes it difficult
 - Some middle schools are implementing a common intervention period
 - Some schools still doing traditional AIS model
 - The state has some [resources](#) about the role of research in the Common Core at engageny
 - Barbara Stripling, now at SU’s Ischool, has a great approach to inquiry that complements the middle school philosophy and 21C readiness
 - Empire State Information Fluency [resources](#)
- **Essential Elements for Standards-Focused Middle-Level Schools and Programs**
 - Reminder about the [Essential Elements](#)
 - There are [protocols](#) you can use to use learn about the *Essential Elements* and to study your own implementation of them

- There are [pamphlets](#) for each element that you can use for education purposes
- There is a [poster](#)
- The latest [issue](#) of *In Transition* has an article about *Essential Elements* implementation in New York State

- **Standards-Based Grading and Reporting**
 - Any updates from buildings
 - Tom Gusky and Lee Ann Jung here on November 3rd
 - Book suggestions for regional “read” in the fall?

- **Regional Vision for PBL and New Tech Network Schools**
 - [Innovation Tech](#) update
 - New Tech High School for Cortland Area - plans are proceeding for a September 2016 opening. The location will soon be announced.
 - PBLNY 2015 is August 3-5, 2015 (registration is active)
 - PBL 101 cohorts being added (April, May, July, August)

- **Roundtable**

Future meetings (and locations)

- Thursday, May 21, 2015 -- Planning for 2015-2016 (including locations)