

Wachusett Regional School District
Professional Development Program

2008-2009

Please email Kristin.Tupper@wrsd.net to register for any of the following workshops:

WPD-08001: Unit lesson Plan/Backward Planning (6 PDPs)

We will review what a unit lesson plan is, review Wiggins Backward Planning, write sample unit lesson plans, review RBT common aliments of a good lesson plan and share samples of our unit lesson plans.

Facilitator: Tony DeFrino
Dates: 1/7/, 1/14/, 1/21/09
Time: 3:45-5:45 PM
Location: Paxton Center School

WPD-08002: Topics in Speech Pathology: Response to Intervention: An Alternative to Special Education (2 PDPs)

This is an audio tape and manual presentation. The first three speech pathologists who sign up for this course will be offered ASHA CEU's as well as PDP's.

Facilitator: Pat Ottaviano
Dates: 9/18/08
Time: 4:00-6:00 PM
Location: Early Childhood Center

WPD-08003: Topics in Speech Pathology: Intervention Strategies for Children Who Stutter: Building Bridges between Research and Clinical Practice (3 PDPs)

This is a video tape and manual presentation. The first three speech pathologists who sign up for this course will be offered ASHA CEU's as well as PDP's.

Facilitator: Pat Ottaviano
Dates: 9/25/08
Time: 4:00-7:00 PM
Location: Early Childhood Center

WPD-08004: Esped Review and Writing IEP's (5 PDPs)

This workshop will review the IEP process in Esped and walk special educators through entering the IEP into Esped. Discussion and case studies will be offered on information needed in IEP 1, 2, 3, & 6. Discussion and case studies will be offered on matching the "Current Performance" to the goals and benchmarks. Limited to 20 participants.

Facilitator: Linda Andrews
Dates: 10/21, 10/28, 11/18, 12/9/08
Time: 4:00-5:15 PM
Location: Davis Hill Library/Computer Lab

WPD-08005: Assistant Principal Focus Group (10 PDPs)

Build a strong network of colleagues within the WRSD as we explore issues pertinent to the role of assistant principal.

Facilitator: Barbara Diamond
Dates: 10/6/08 (other dates to be determined at first meeting)
Time: 4:00-6:00 PM
Location: Dawson Elementary School

WPD-08006: Classroom Teacher's Role in the Special Education Process (6 PDPs)

Teachers will gain a greater understanding of their role and how they can best contribute at Team meetings. The Team process will be reviewed with emphasis on determining special needs, services, classroom accommodations, student progress, and how the classroom teacher contributes to each of these.

Facilitator: Bob Shyllberg
Dates: 10/2, 10/16, 11/6, 11/20/08
Time: 3:45-5:15 PM
Location: Wachusett Regional High School, Room A110

WPD-08007: Middle School Novels, Exploring What's New (5 PDPs)

Participants will read, discuss, and design lesson plans for new novels designed for the middle level. A reading list of two to three new middle level novels will be provided in December so that participants can be prepared to share thoughts and ideas.

Facilitator: Karen Hughes
Dates: 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27/09
Time: 3:45-5:00 PM
Location: Mountview Middle School

WPD-08008: Nonviolent Crisis Prevention - Full Course (12 PDPs)

This course is designed to teach participants how to provide for the care, welfare, safety, and security of the students we teach. In this 12 hour course participants will cover topics such as Nonverbal Behavior, Paraverbal Communication, Verbal Intervention Techniques, and Physical Personal Safety Techniques. A full continuum of intervention will be discussed with the goal of minimizing and/or eliminating risk during a crisis. Otherwise known as "restraint training" this course is intended to provide staff with a full range of intervention techniques to add to their toolbox for use with students who present with social, emotional, and/or behavioral challenges.

Facilitator: Lincoln Waterhouse
Dates: 9/29, 9/30, 10/1, 10/2/08
Time: 4:00-7:00 PM
Location: Curriculum Center

WPD-08009: Nonviolent Crisis Prevention - Refresher Course (6 PDPs)

This course is designed for individuals who have taken the full course in Nonviolent Crisis Prevention from CPI (the Crisis Prevention Institute) within the past two years. In this course participants will review and expand upon the verbal intervention techniques covered in the full course. A framework for providing staff with tools to provide for the care, welfare, safety and security of the students they work with will be presented.

Facilitator: Lincoln Waterhouse
Dates: 9/29, 9/30/08
Time: 4:00-7:00 PM
Location: Curriculum Center

WPD-08010: Foreign Language Lab Technology (0 PDPs)

Teachers will be introduced to and given the opportunity to practice the new Foreign Language Lab technology. Instruction will be geared to each teacher's level of experience. Teachers will learn how to use the computers for Internet research, speaking activities, and oral testing. They will practice using the available software such as PowerPoint, WireTap Studio iMovie, GarageBand, SnapZ Pro, etc. Classes will meet Thursday afternoons in the lab. Please sign up in advanced of the first class.

Facilitator: Penny Morgan
Dates: 9/11/08 (Remaining dates TBD)
Time: 2:30-3:30 PM
Location: WachusettRegional High School, Language Lab

WPD-08011: Assertive Discipline (5.25 PDPs)

Investigate discipline techniques through Lee Canter's "Assertive Discipline" model. Handouts, videos, discussion groups, and class/individual projects.

Facilitator: Jim Pedone
Dates: 2/2, 2/9, 2/23/09
Time: 3:45-5:30 PM
Location: WRHS - Room TBA

WPD-08012: Book study of A Framework for Understanding Poverty by Ruby Payne (5 PDPs)

While reading this interesting book, we will meet and discuss the various ways to better understand this complex and growing subgroup. Topics will include how economic affects behavior and mindsets, why students from generational poverty often fear being educated, the "hidden rules" within economic classes, and discipline interventions that improve behavior.

Facilitator: Tony Gasbarro
Dates: 1/14, 1/21, 2/4, 2/11/09
Time: 3:45-5:00 PM
Location: Glenwood Elementary School Library

WPD-08013: Introduction to Smartboards (5 PDPs)

This course will be an introduction to the Smartboard. We review the basic functions of the board and discuss practical usage in the classroom. It will be an opportunity for teachers to get together and share ideas and have questions answered.

Facilitator: Brian McCarthy
Dates: 1/5, 1/12, 1/26, 2/2/09
Time: 3:45-5:00 PM
Location: Mountview Middle School

WPD-08014: Teacher Recertification (5 PDPs)

Teachers will begin the process of recertification by gathering documents, reviewing the requirements, and aligning their Individual Professional Development Plans. At the second session, teachers will log into the DOE service page and complete the process. Teacher should bring necessary materials to both sessions. Limited to 20 participants.

Facilitator: Mary Cringan
Dates: 3/23, 4/13/09
Time: 4:00-6:30 PM
Location: Thomas Prince School

WPD-08015: Student Handbook Focus Group/Elementary & Middle School (6 PDPs)

This group will review the practices and expectations that appear in the middle and elementary school handbooks in the District. We will also explore the process used to combine the individual school portion of the book with the District portion. Outcomes of this group will be shared with District administrators. Participation is appropriate for elementary and middle school teachers and administrators.

Facilitator: Erik Githmark, Bev Cochran
Dates: 10/20, 11/3, 11/17/08
Time: 3:45-5:45 PM
Location: Central Tree Middle School

WPD-08016: Teaching the Tiger (6 PDPs)

The book, *Teaching the Tiger*, focuses on suggestions for students diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. Participants will discuss an overview focusing on teacher & peer education, classroom modifications, academic interventions, pitfalls, and social skills. Book will be provided. Grade level suggestion: 1-5. Limited to 6 participants.

Facilitator: Dixie Herbst
Dates: 10/15, 10/22, 10/29/08
Time: 4:00-6:00 PM
Location: Naquag Elementary School

WPD-08017: Addressing the Needs of the Gifted Student in the General Classroom (6 PDPs)

The class will discuss approaches and resources teachers can use to challenge accelerated students in grades 3 to 5, while balancing the students' involvement in the classroom community.

Facilitator: Patty Hurley
Dates: 11/10, 11/24, 12/8/08
Time: 4:00-6:00 PM
Location: Mayo Elementary School Library

WPD-08018: Math Interventions (Gr K-4) (5.25 PDPs)

Explore ways to work with children with skill deficits. Learn how changing your vocabulary and adding simple elements to your math lessons can bring joy, understanding, and appreciation for the meaning of math. Learn to navigate websites to create individual worksheet assessments/probes for skill deficit areas as well as easily implemented classroom tested “reach to teach” strategies, adaptations and teaching tools to help you help your struggling students

achieve success. Teachers will leave the course with a customized intervention binder. Best of all, these strategies support Response to Intervention (RTI). Limited to 10 participants.

Facilitator: Trish O'Donnell
Dates: 10/21, 10/28 and 11/11/08
Time: 4:00-5:45 PM
Location: Chocksett School Computer Lab

WPD-08019: Exploring Effective Approaches to teaching Spelling (5 PDPs)

The focus of this class is to have teachers come together to discuss their concerns about spelling. Through our discussions we will share and discuss strategies that we currently use to enhance spelling across all curriculum areas. We will be referencing a book entitled "Spelling K-8 Planning and Teaching by Daine Snowball and Faye Bolton. This is grades K-5. Limited to 10 participants.

Facilitator: Patty Scales
Dates: 10/15, 10/22, 10/29/08
Time: 4:00-5:30 PM (10/15), 4:00-6:00 PM (10/22), 4:00-6:00 PM (10/29)
Location: Dawson Elementary School

WPD-08020: Breaking Ranks In the Middle (5 PDPs)

This course will review and examine the thirty different characteristics for collaborative leadership and professional learning communities at the middle school level that are addressed in the book by NASSP, Breaking Ranks In The Middle, (2006).

Facilitator: Betty Sabacinski
Dates: 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28/08
Time: 3:45-5:00 PM
Location: Chocksett Middle School

WPD-08021: Literacy Brainstorming (5 PDPs)

Participants will 'focus' on two or three comprehension strategies each session. We will share what's working in our first thru fifth grade classrooms and brainstorm new approaches to improving student strategies. Preparation and active participation is expected, ie. readings and sharing of ideas and materials.

Facilitator: Kathi McCollumn
Dates: 10/6, 10/27, 11/3, 11/17/08
Time: 4:00-5:15 PM
Location: Paxton Center School

WPD-08022: Upper Body Toning, Conditioning and Balance (5 PDPs)

This course will focus on choosing proper exercises, and concentrating on technique, while strengthening the upper body and core. Each session will begin with a warm-up stretch and 1 mile run on the Wachusett Track. Participants should be in good condition prior to participation.

Facilitator: Jen Lynch
Dates: 5/5, 5/7/09
Time: 4:00-6:30 PM
Location: WachusettRegional High School

WPD-08023: Support/Discussion Group for First Year High School Teachers (8PDPs)

Topics such as classroom management and effective teaching practices will be covered. A confidential arena for them to voice concerns and offer advice will be provided.

Facilitator: Drew Weymouth
Dates: 9/29, 10/27, 11/24, 1/26, 2/23, 3/30, 4/27, 5/25
Time: 2:30-3:30 PM
Location: Wachusett Regional High School

WPD-08024: Implementing Small Schools at the Secondary Level (5 PDPs)

Participants will look at the structures of small schools as well as any road blocks of implementation strategies.

Facilitator: Bill Beando
Dates: 11/3, 11/4/08
Time: 3:45-6:15 PM
Location: Wachusett Regional High School

WPD-08025: Literature Circles in the Middle School English Classroom (5 PDPs)

When teachers use Literature Circles in the classroom, children learn to develop independent and reflective thinking skills. Reading comprehension increases, and as a result, enjoyment of the story increases. Students learn to "get into" a book and become lifelong readers. This workshop will explore the What, Why and How of Literature Circles. Participants will discuss the rationale for literature circles and the principles that guide this reading approach. Additionally, they will learn to organize, manage and handle the logistics of literature circles.

Facilitator: Peggy Snow
Dates: 10/21, 10/28, 11/18, 12/2/08
Time: 3:45-5:00 PM
Location: Chocksett Middle School

WPD-08026: Grade 9-12 English Curriculum Review (10 PDPs)

This course will review the revised English curricula for English 9, English 10, and American Literature. Several notable changes have been implemented regarding the curricula for these classes, and this course will provide an overview of the changes and offer specific help on strategies to use during specific curricular units. Session one will focus on vertical teaming strategies to ensure that students who complete English 9 are ready for English 10; and that after passing English 10, students are ready to meet the expectations of Upper School English electives. Session Two will focus on critiques and appropriate expectations for critiques by students in Grades 9, 10, and 11. Sessions three and four will focus on specific English 9 or English 10 or American Literature units. Course participants will help determine the specific units to be addressed.

Facilitator: Michael O'Sullivan
Dates: 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28/08
Time: 2:30-5:00 p.m.
Location: Wachusett Regional High School

WPD-08027: Primarily Math (6 PDPs)

For K-2 teachers interested in strategies and hands-on math activities that correlate with the Everyday Math program to help young children conceptualize various mathematical ideas.

Facilitator: Karen Baer
Dates: 11/20, 12/4, 12/11/08
Time: 3:45-5:45
Location: Thomas Prince School

WPD-08028: Exemplars - Math Open Response (6 PDPs)

The training will focus on utilizing the Math Exemplars to develop critical thinking skills in mathematics. K-5 teachers welcome.

1 hour and half time of development, data collection and analysis outside of workshops.

Facilitator: Sean O'Shea
Dates: 10/2, 10/23, 11/13/08
Time: 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Location: Glenwood Elementary School

WPD-08029: Breaking Ranks in the Middle (6 PDPs)

Readings and discussion regarding middle school reforms and strategies for making changes to provide a viable framework for middle level education.

Facilitator: Preston Shaw
Dates: 11/6/08, 12/11/08, 1/15/09, 3/12/09
Time: 4:00-5:30 PM
Location: Mountview Middle School

WPD-08030: 504 Roundtable: Issues and Challenges in Administering Section 504 (6.25 PDPs)

During this 5-session program, participants will have the opportunity to review Section 504 Accommodation Regulations become familiar with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, understand terms as defined under the Act review the WRSD referral, Eligibility and Notification Processes, understand school and educator's responsibilities, discuss "reasonable accommodations", define the 504 Team, review related documentation, and understand the methods to create well-defined plans, clearly define resources and outline interventions

Facilitator: Nancy Houle
Dates: 10/6, 11/3, 12/1, 1/5, 2/2
Time: 3:45-5:00 PM
Location: Central Office Conference Room

WPD-08031: Instructional Improvement in the Elementary School (5 PDPs)

Open to elementary teachers interested in current thought on instructional improvement. For the last two years, Mike Schmoker's book Results Now has been required reading for all district administrators. The group will read this book and discuss ways to make their instruction more purposeful and effective.

Facilitator: Judy Evans
Dates: 9/16, 9/30, 10/14, 10/28/08
Time: 4:15-5:30 PM
Location: Mayo Elementary School Library

WPD-08032: Schools from Within (book discussion group) (5.25 PDPs)

This is not a book about schools or children. Rather, it is about adults that help children learn. Author Roland Barth is a well known lecturer, professor, author and founder of the Principals Center @ Harvard University. "Sound, rich schools will emerge in America only when we trust, nurture, and respect teachers in a manner commensurate with the importance of the calling they have chosen." The text is an easy read for educators. Its focus is the improving schools through its people. It is realistic & authentic. Chapter titles include: A Crisis in Confidence, Adversaries within the Schoolhouse, Becoming Colleagues, Teachers as Learners, Leaders as Learners, Becoming a Community of Learners, and Visions of Good Schools. A book discussion group will be the format of this PDP course. Participants may purchase the book: ISBN # 1-55542-368-X, Publisher Jossey-Bass, copyright 1990

Facilitator: Tony Cipro
Dates: 3/2, 3/9, 3/16/09
Time: 4:00-5:45 PM
Location: Houghton Elementary School Library

WPD-08033: Math – Numbers and Operations (6 PDPs)

This course will focus on the concepts of numbers and operations in mathematics. It is designed for individuals who wish to improve their confidence in and knowledge about numbers and operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) in elementary mathematics, as well as gain an overview of how certain mathematical concepts are introduced and developed. Limit of 10 participants.

Facilitator: John Campbell
Dates: 1/5, 1/12, 1/26/09
Time: 3:45-5:45 PM
Location: Naquag Elementary School

WPD-08034: L.A.S.W Looking At Student Work (5 PDPs)

Participants will utilize a 'tuning protocol' to examine student work. The tuning protocol is a collaborative reflection that helps educators to design and refine their assessment systems, as well as to support higher quality student performance.

Facilitator: Marissa Brisson
Dates: 3/23, 3/30/09
Time: 3:45-6:00 PM(3/23); 3:45-6:30 PM (3/30)
Location: Wachusett Regional High School

WPD-08035: Utilizing Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports in the Elementary School Classroom (6 PDPs)

Participants will discuss and outline the most common behavioral and discipline problems observed in the classroom setting. This information will be used to examine appropriate and effective positive behavioral interventions and supports. Participants will review a variety of strategies, ranging from more general, classroom supports, to more intensive individual interventions. Concrete examples of behavioral support plans will be provided, as will a review of relevant websites offering intervention support and research, as well as a general review of Functional Behavioral Assessments.

Facilitator: Jay Norton
Dates: 11/10, 11/17, 11/24/08
Time: 4:00-6:00 PM
Location: Davis Hill Elementary School

WPD-08036: Curriculum Mapping by Design (12 PDPs)

Course will discuss and design curriculum for classrooms based on when information is presented and how instruction is delivered.

Facilitator: Peter McMorrow
Dates: 11/25, 1/30, 4/17, 6/12
Time: 4:00-7:00 PM
Location: Wachusett Regional High School

WPD-08050: Creating Inclusive Classrooms/Book Study Group (5 PDPs)

This book study group is designed for teachers of students in kindergarten through fifth grade. The text we will use is "Creating Inclusive Classrooms. Effective and Reflective Practices for All Students". We will read and discuss how to go beyond the typical inclusion classroom. We will discuss the principles of effective inclusion including topics of

- All learners and equal access;
- Individual strengths and needs;
- Reflective practices and differentiated instruction;
- Community and collaboration.

Classroom based examples and case studies on DVD to enable us to see examples of teaching and learning strategies for inclusion.

Facilitator: Mark Aucoin
Dates: 1/22, 1/29, 2/5/2008
Time: 3:45-5:45 (1/22 & 1/29); 3:34-4:45 (2/5)
Location: Davis Hill Elementary School Library

WPD-08051: Health Focus Group (14 PDPs)

This group of health educators plans to meet monthly to update and discuss issues related to health education. There are currently few offerings for health teachers to accumulate subject specific PDPs and few opportunities to connect with other health educators in the Wachusett District. The Health Education Focus Group will plan curriculum continuity throughout the district, share methods of health content and health literacy instruction, review health curriculum assessment, and address current issues in health education. In addition, this group may address parent health concerns and ways to access community service organizations and/or speakers for classroom presentations. Finally, members of the group will be available to mentor new health educators within the District.

Facilitator: Carolyn O'Malley
Dates/Locations: 10/9/08 – Central Tree Middle School, Room 133
11/13/08 – WRHS Health Ed Office
12/11/08 – Mountview Middle School
1/8/09 – Central Tree Middle School
2/12/09 – WRHS Health Ed Office
3/12/09 – Mountview Middle School

Time:

4/9/09 – Central Tree Middle School
3:30-5:30 p.m.