



# Lincoln Public Schools

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Patricia Kinsella  
Assistant Superintendent of Schools

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To: School Committee  
From: Patricia Kinsella  
Re: Report on Summer Curriculum and Professional Development  
Date: September 3, 2014

## Overview

The summer work projects undertaken by LPS faculty in 2014 were numerous, varied, and closely aligned to the district's Strategic Plan. The quality of the projects was high, and school-year implementation of new learning will commence this fall.

## Numbers

- Over 100 staff participated in 30 work projects.
- Workshop sizes ranged from two to eighteen participants.
- Half of the participants worked on more than one project.
- The number of work projects increased this year from 27 to 30.

## Range of Projects

The summer work projects, covering almost all curriculum areas, fell into three categories:

- Professional Learning:** staff increased their repertoire of instructional strategies (i.e., *Written response to text: Integrating writing and reading comprehension*), background knowledge in the content areas (*Developing Mathematical Ideas: Examining Features of Shape*), and technical skills (*Google Apps for Education*).
- Curriculum Development:** staff refined curriculum in response to new standards (i.e., *Gr. 1-5 Math curriculum alignment*), as well as to new materials aligned with new standards (*French curriculum: preparation for new texts*).
- Orientation for New Teachers:** for the first time, staff new to Lincoln Public Schools were provided not only with a day of general orientation to the district, but also with content-specific orientation to curriculum, materials, and assessment (i.e., *Gr. 6 Science curriculum*).

## Alignment with Strategic Plan

All summer work conducted by faculty was in alignment with the Strategic Plan 2013-2015. The Professional Learning and Curriculum Development workshops, for instance, moved our staff closer to meeting district objectives around improved instruction. Faculty work in Math, Science, ESL, Foreign Languages, Technology, Social Studies, and Wellness was a major step towards meeting our objectives regarding the alignment of LPS curricula with MA Curriculum Frameworks.

## Observations

When visiting workshops this summer, I observed professionals focused on meaningful projects that matched the district's Strategic Plan and that allowed staff to demonstrate leadership among colleagues. The summer workshop program appears to be a key driver not only in the district's movement toward improved teaching and learning, but also in the development and maintenance of a robust and engaged professional community.



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## Summer Work 2014: Alignment with Strategic Objectives

### Strategic Objective: Curriculum and Instruction

*Refine curriculum and instruction to strengthen the engagement and achievement of all students*

Convener	Area	Project focus	Category	# staff
J. Colombo	ELA	Close reading in Gr 3: Integrating strategies and content	Prof. Lrng.	4
J. Merra	ELA	Close reading: A strategy for deepening reading instruction	Prof. Lrng.	18
J. Merra	ELA	Written response to text: Integrating writing and reading comp.	Prof. Lrng.	14
K. Hansen	For. Lang.	French Curriculum: Preparation for new texts	Curric.	2
K O'Connell	Math	EDMath review, 2015 version	Curric.	2
S. Totten	Math	Advanced Algebra I: Next text preparation	Curric.	2
E. Herzog	Math	Gr 1-5 Math curriculum alignment	Curric.	5
E. Van Cleaf	Math	Developing Mathematical Ideas: Examining Features of Shape	Prof. Lrng.	12
S. Dexter	Math	Authentic learning in math	Prof. Lrng.	6
E. Herzog	Math	Number Talks: strategies in primary math grades	Prof. Lrng.	9
J. Daly	Math	Standards of mathematical practice in action in Gr. K	Prof. Lrng.	5
T. Green M. Curtis	Science	Gr. 4 Science: Engineering & Lego robotics: Unit refinement	Curric.	2
M. Curtis	Science	Gr. 4 Science, Waves, light & sound: Enriching current unit	Curric.	4
M. Curtis	Science	Studying the new science and technology standards	Prof. Lrng.	11
J. Fairchild	Social St.	Gr. 6-7: Revision of tech/social studies collaborative projects	Curric.	2
R. Ford	Tech	1-1 Design: Student introduction to HMS	Curric.	14
C. Matthes	Tech	Supporting the Gr. K curriculum with iPads	Prof. Lrng.	5

### Strategic Objective: Assessment and Data

*Use assessment and data to effectively to promote and monitor student growth*

M. Nordstrom	Wellness	Fitness assessment development	Curric.	5
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### Strategic Objective: Responding to Student Needs

*Respond skillfully to the academic, social emotional, and physical needs of all students*

K. Polster	ESL	ESL: Integrating WIDA and LPS Expectations	Curric.	2
S. Reneris	Speech	Speech/language family activities	Curric.	2
B. Ludwig	Stud. Sup.	Social/emotional Intervention plan, Phase II	Curric.	7
R. Kim	Stud. Sup.	Executive function skills: Integration into the classroom	Curric.	2

### Workshops in support of overall goals of Strategic Plan: Technical skill development and new faculty orientation

N. Putnam J. Williams	Tech	Connect with K-2 families using classroom blog	Prof. Lrng.	5
C. Matthes	Tech	Google Apps for Education	Prof. Lrng.	14
J. Merra	All	Standards-based assessment and reporting	Orient.	12
M. Curtis	ELA	Gr 6 Science curriculum	Orient.	3
J. Merra	ELA	Gr 6-8 ELA curriculum	Orient.	5
J. Merra	ELA	Gr 1-3 ELA curriculum	Orient.	7
W. Glosband	Social St.	Gr 7/8 Social Studies curriculum	Orient.	3
K. O'Connell	Math	Gr 1-3 Math curriculum	Orient.	7