

# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

*Update*



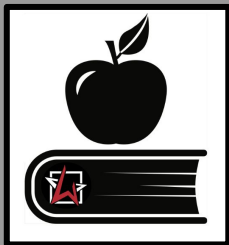
**WESTSIDE**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
COMMUNITY • INNOVATION • EXCELLENCE

Spring 2026



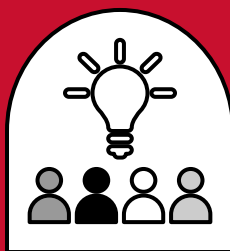
## 3 PILLARS OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

### EDUCATOR ORIENTATION & INDUCTION



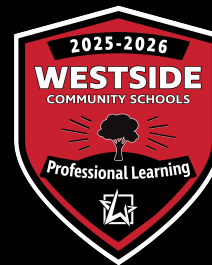
Westside Way Program

### CONTINUOUS LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT



District • Building • Team

### SELF-DIRECTED GROWTH & ENGAGEMENT

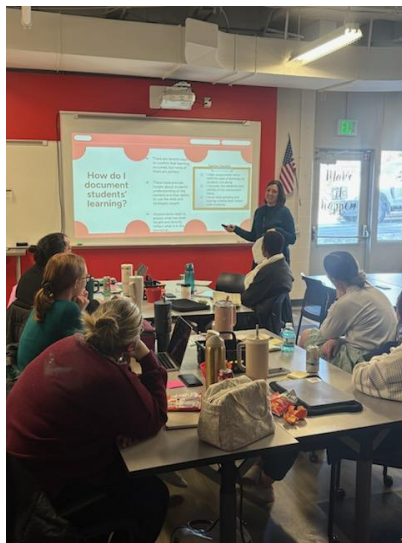
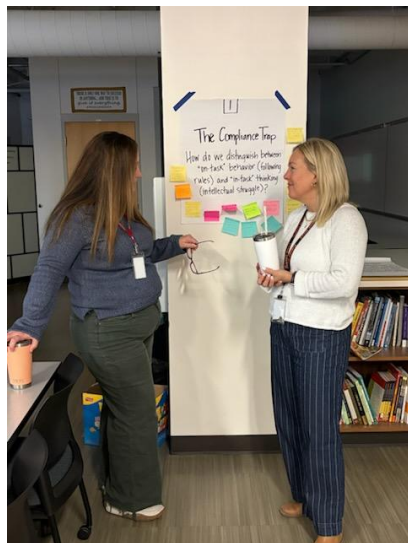


Incentivized Credits  
& Badging

# PILLAR #1

## Educator Orientation & Induction

*Westside Way Program: Rooted in the Instructional Model*



Westside Community Schools

## INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL

*We ensure an instructional model that values...*

thoughtful &  
deliberate  
instructional planning

rich learning  
environments

high quality,  
evidence-based  
instruction

strong & supportive  
collaboration



### Principle 1: POSITIVE CLASSROOM CLIMATE

High Expectations • Culture of Belonging, Equity & Inclusion • Positive Interactions



### Principle 2: EFFECTIVE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Clear Routines & Procedures • Organized Learning Environment • Managing Classroom Behaviors • Pacing



### Principle 3: DATA-INFORMED INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES

Clear Learning Goal • Lesson Design • Teaching to Mastery • Differentiation • Check for Understanding • Feedback to Learners



### Principle 4: ACTIVE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Active Participation • Opportunities to Respond

# PILLAR #1

## Educator Orientation & Induction

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### *Westside Way Program*



Westside Way Year 1 2025-26

- ★ 3 year program
- ★ Curriculum specific onboarding
- ★ Timely trainings
- ★ Customized strands of learning by role
- ★ Instructional Coach and Mentor support

52

Westside Way Year 1 Teachers

49

Westside Way Year 2 Teachers

60

Westside Way Year 3 Teachers

# PILLAR #2

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## Continuous Learning & Development

*PLC & Professional Learning Days*


- ★ Continuous growth and professional excellence
- ★ Clear communication
  - Year-at-a-glance
  - Monthly updates
- ★ Varied opportunities: district, building and department led
  - Pre-Opening Week
  - Professional Learning Days
  - Built-in teacher work days
  - Various meetings: PLCs, MTSS, coaching, mentors, building staff meetings, & early release Wednesday collaboration


# Welcome! Guest Teacher Professional Learning

October 9, 2025  
8:30-11:00 a.m


 8:30-8:45 Welcome  
from Dr. Haynes

 8:45-9:15 - Dr. Matt Lee,  
Technology Focus -  
Gmail & Google Drive

 9:15-9:45 - Jake Ritonya,  
Safety Focus - Raptor

 9:45-9:55 - Break

 9:55-10:25 - Mel Connolly, HR  
Focus - Adult Responsibilities for  
CPS Reporting

 10:25-11:00 - Jamie Schnieber and  
Jamie Dolan, Instructional Focus -  
Instructional Best Practices



Elementary  
Teachers,  
ICs &  
Principals

**Tailored opportunities for  
learning and reflection  
are clearly  
communicated and made  
available to all staff  
groups.**

Elementary Teachers, ICs & Principals	September 2, 2025	Application of: Priority Indicators, Into Math Resources, & Student Engagement	Grades: 1, 3, 5	8:00-10:00 BUILDING MEETING 10:00-10:30 TRAVEL 10:30-12:30 MATH @ West Campus ( <a href="#">See Locations</a> ) 12:30-4:00 LUNCH & PLAN
			Grades: K, 2, 4, 6	8:00-10:00 BUILDING MEETING 10:00-1:30 LUNCH & PLAN 1:30-2:00 TRAVEL 2:00-4:00 MATH @ West Campus ( <a href="#">See Locations</a> )
	October 13, 2025	Application of: Priority Indicators, Into Math Resources, Student Engagement, & Productive Struggle	Grades: K, 2, 4, 6	8:00-10:00 BUILDING MEETING 10:00-10:30 TRAVEL 10:30-12:30 MATH @ West Campus ( <a href="#">See Locations</a> ) 12:30-4:00 LUNCH & PLAN
			Grades: 1, 3, 5	8:00-10:00 BUILDING MEETING 10:00-1:30 LUNCH & PLAN 1:30-2:00 TRAVEL 2:00-4:00 MATH @ West Campus ( <a href="#">See Locations</a> )
	January 16, 2026	District Select-a-Session @ WHS	All	7:45-4:00 @ WHS
	February 16, 2026	Application of: Priority Indicators, Math Resources, Student Engagement, Productive Struggle	Grades: K, 1, 3, 5	8:00-10:00 BUILDING MEETING 10:00-10:30 TRAVEL


## Student Support Professional Learning Sessions 2025-26 (EA, AA's and Health Assistants)

Date	Description
<b>August 5, 2025</b>	<b>Theme: Regulation and Supportive Responses to Student Behavior</b> Time and Location: • 8 am - 11 am: WHS Presenters: • Jamie Mapp, School Psychologist, and Sean Roberts, LIMHP, with ESUS • Kendal Runde, Assistant Principal at Westgate Elementary
<b>September 2, 2025 ONLINE</b>	<b>Theme: Technology - Tricks and Tips for Utilizing Google Docs in the Classroom Setting and Beyond</b> <b>Presenters:</b> Bridget Brown, Technology Integration
<b>October 13, 2025</b>	<b>Theme: Behavioral De-escalation &amp; Trauma</b> Time and Location: • 8 am - 11 am: West Campus Cafeteria Presenters: • Forrest Selvey, Elementary Special Education Facilitator (8:30 - 9:45 am) • Jen Borges, Elementary Special Education Coordinator (10 - 11 am)
<b>November 17-21, 2025 ONLINE</b> <i>(5 day window to complete)</i>	<b>Theme: Productive Struggle &amp; Strategies to Support Diverse Learners</b> <b>Presenters:</b> Karin Mussman, District MTSS Coordinator



# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SUMMIT

## January 16, 2026





**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
LEARNING SUMMIT: WIN THE DAY**

**A FUN DAY FULL OF LEARNING, CONNECTING AND COLLABORATING  
WITH RAFFLES AND GAMES TOO!**

This unique event empowers you to take charge of your own learning and customize your experience by choosing from a variety of engaging sessions tailored to your interests and needs.

Whether you're passionate about student engagement, gaining leadership skills, or personal wellness,  
**there's something for everyone!**





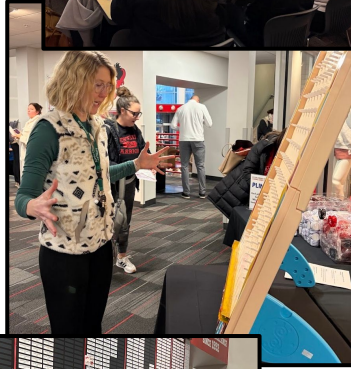
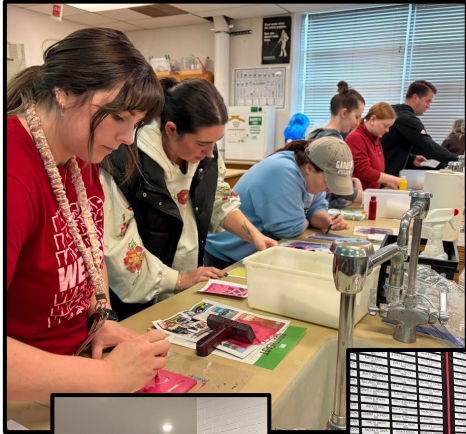
*Save The Date*  
**JANUARY  
16<sup>TH</sup>**

- ★ 2 Choice Keynote Speakers
- ★ 3 Select-a-Sessions with 24 session options in each
- ★ ALICE training for all staff
- ★ Incentives to submit raffle entries through active engagement in sessions and games!



# PILLAR #2

## Continuous Learning & Development



578

Classified & Certified Staff attended

74

Select -a-Sessions offered throughout the day

62

District Presenters

26

Outside of District Presenters

92%

Staff rated the Learning Summit experience as Exceptional or Very Good



# PILLAR #3

## Self-Directed Growth & Engagement

### *Incentivized Credits & Badging*

Forrest Selvey, Special Education Facilitator



Nikaela Schroeder, District PT

- ★ INCENTIVIZED and optional approach to professional growth
- ★ Variety of offerings to earn PL credits toward the badge
- ★ Designed to ensure that learning is meaningful, relevant and directly applicable to STAFF PRIORITIES and daily practice

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- Before school, after school and Saturday offerings
- 45 minutes to 1 hour session = 1 credit
- 10 credits = 1 badge
- 1 badge = \$325 stipend



# PILLAR #3

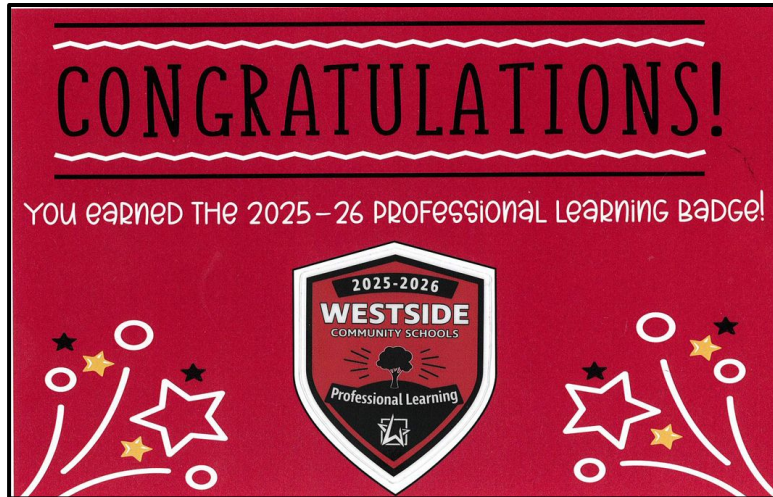
## Self-Directed Growth & Engagement

### *Sample of Badging Offerings*

OFFERING DATE	TOPIC	INTENDED OUTCOMES/SESSION DESCRIPTION	TARGET AUDIENCE	PRESENTER	Registration
March 12, 2026 4:00-4:45 p.m. Westgate Library	(WESIDE) Empowering Educators: Recognizing, Reporting, and Refusing Bullying	This training will provide strategies and knowledge to foster a safe and inclusive school environment. Participants will learn to recognize the subtle and overt signs of bullying and understand the different forms. The training will inform educators of different strategies for students to report bullying, ensuring timely and appropriate intervention. Educators will gain techniques for proactively teaching students how to refuse bullying behavior, both as targets and as bystanders, promoting a culture of upstanding and peer support.	PreK-12	Abby Lynch, School Counselor at Westgate Elementary	Click <a href="#">Here</a> to Register
March 23, 2026 West Campus - PL Main 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Bridge to Independence: Mastering Generalization in Verbal Behavior	Update your toolkit with modern generalization strategies designed to move mastered skills from the table into the natural environment. This session is essential for teachers looking to support student independence across new people, places, and contexts. Bring your students ABLLS and get to collaborate with other teachers that are also using Verbal Behavior as an intervention. Prerequisite: <i>Attendees must have completed Verbal Behavior training and be currently working with a student on a VB program.</i>	PreK-12	Gillian VanLent, Elementary Special Education Facilitator	Click <a href="#">Here</a> to Register
March 24, 2026 West Campus- PL Main 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Calling all <u>Elementary</u> Educators: Educating the SMART GEN	This session is appropriate for all <u>elementary</u> administrators, staff, and educators. Providing information to you on the latest trends and changes in our online environments and best practices for promoting healthy and safe online behaviors for students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developmental, emotional, psychological impacts of student's access to 24/7 digital devices and social media usage COPPA and professional privacy laws</li> <li>• Professional social media best practices</li> <li>• Strategies for managing social media issues and cyberbullying</li> <li>• Best practices for using technology in and out of the classroom</li> <li>• How to support students and families to keep students safe online</li> </ul>	K-6	Suzie Fogarty, Community Partnership Coordinator	Click <a href="#">Here</a> to Register

# PILLAR #3

## Self-Directed Growth & Engagement



68 Sessions offered throughout the year

32 People have earned the badge

52 People have attended 5 or more sessions

144 People have attended at least 1 session

11 Badging offerings still to come this school year

# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



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*Questions?*