



**Irisha Goodman, Director of Public Relations**  
goodmani@troup.org / troupp.org  
100 North Davis Rd, Building C / LaGrange, Georgia 30241  
Office: 706.812.7900 / Fax: 706-812-7904

## ***Media Release***

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

LaGrange, GA., January 20, 2023 – Every week until the end of the 2022-2023 school year, The Troup County School System will highlight a Professional Learning Community from a different school.

The goal of the Professional Learning Communities is to meet regularly and discuss standards-based approaches, common assessments, student work, student-level data, interventions, and instructional improvement strategies.

This week's highlight is **Callaway Middle School, written by Todd McRae, Principal of CMS.**

### **CMS PLC Spotlight**

Callaway Middle School professional learning communities are designed to build capacity within the building through collaboration among teachers and support staff. Teachers participate in PLCs two times per week, where they discuss lesson plans, formative and summative assessment data, and standards-based instruction, so the education of our students can be enhanced. Teachers meet weekly to bounce ideas off one another so research-based best practices can be consistently implemented to ensure our students receive first-class instruction every week. Our 8th-grade team participates in team walkthroughs where they can observe teacher leaders within the building and share ideas on how strategies they observed can be implemented within their classroom. Content-Specific Teachers at Callaway Middle School are diving into Professional Learning Opportunities by participating in peer observations. Teachers have really embraced the renewed push of standards-based classrooms and what they look like across the content areas. Peer observations have allowed each individual to focus on improvement, instructional strategies, and execution in their classrooms. This applies to student-centered academic environments. Our TKES focus has consistently been standards 3, 5, and 8, focusing on instructional strategies, assessment strategies, and maximizing instructional time within each segment.

For weekly PLCs, teachers within each grade level meet twice weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tuesdays are reserved for team meetings where teachers, administrators, and support personnel meet to discuss intervention groups, school improvement goals, and gifted services. Thursdays are reserved for content teachers to discuss recent assessment data to inform future lesson plans. Lesson plans are adjusted weekly to ensure student needs are met, and school improvement goals are targeted. iReady diagnostic data is used to monitor student progress to ensure each student is targeted for interventions that focus on remediation and acceleration.

The impact of our PLCs can be seen within our iReady diagnostic data, where each grade level has demonstrated significant improvement in Reading and Math. Our students have benefited from PLCs by demonstrating they are on track to meet school improvement goals at the end of

the year. We look forward to the continued growth and progress of our students through the influence our PLCs have had on student achievement.

### **About Troup County School System**

Troup County School System is an accredited educational system with over 12,200 students in grades K-12. TCSS does offer a free Pre-K program at each elementary school. The system is comprised of eleven elementary schools, three middle schools, three high schools, one college and career academy, and one alternative learning center. Students within the school system are taught a rigorous and relevant curriculum that helps them make college and career choices beyond graduation. The system 2022 graduation rate is 85.9 percent. To learn more about Troup County School System, visit [troup.org](http://troup.org) and the Troup County School System Facebook page.

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