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Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LaGrange, GA., March 3, 2023 – Every week until the end of the 2022-2023 school year, The Troup County School System highlights a Professional Learning Community from a different school.

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

This PLC highlight is from **Clearview Elementary School, written by Shannah Mabry, Principal of CVES.**

Imagine walking into a room to see a group of educators with a wide range of knowledge, expertise, and experience gathered as teams to engage in purposeful, student-focused conversations. The goal is to deconstruct grade-level standards, determine effective instructional strategies, analyze student assessment data to determine progress, and develop instructional next steps based on this data. The group stands firm in the belief of “Better Together” and channels vast amounts of expertise within the teams to plan and engage in the cycle of continuous school improvement. The picture in your mind of this purposeful, intentional work is what occurs at Clearview Elementary School. CVES Faculty and Staff utilize Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) as the structure for collaboration and continuous school improvement.

Throughout CVES, teams of professionals (certified and non-certified) work together in PLCs to create instructional plans utilizing grade-level standards and effective instructional strategies, analyze student data, and develop instructional next steps based on current student data. Teachers, administrators, and support staff collaborate weekly to develop standards-based instructional plans focusing on 1. What should students learn? 2. How to determine if they have mastered it? 3. How to respond if a student experiences difficulty? 4. How to respond when a student already knows the material? Teams also engage in CVES Data Talks Cycles, where teams analyze formative, summative, and diagnostic data. Teachers utilize Data Talks Pre and Post Protocols as a tool to analyze this data. Teachers bring these protocols to team Data Talks to discuss students’ level of mastery within standards and create action plans for the steps needed to support students’ strengths and weaknesses within the standards. These action plans are utilized to create weekly instructional plans. Pictured are snapshots of our PK-5th grade teams collaborating during our February Data Talks. Instructional next steps and action plans were created based on the student’s current level of performance.

Certified teachers do not only utilize Professional Learning Communities at CVES; instructional paraprofessionals also collaborate in a CVES PLC. Each month paraprofessionals participate in school-based professional learning and job-embedded tasks that align with CVES instructional goals. Pictured is one of our paraprofessionals implementing phonemic awareness instructional strategies learned in a PLC session while facilitating a small reading group. We have the best instructional paraprofessionals dedicated to student learning and success.

Our CVES mission is “Providing a quality curriculum and high expectations for all learners in a safe, secure, and supportive learning environment while building positive self-esteem and preparing students to become lifelong learners and role models.” At the beginning of the year, we learned about the purpose of PLCs and evaluated our current PLC Stage (based on the seven stages of a PLC in Graham and Ferriter’s “One Step at a Time”). In January, we re-evaluated our PLC Stage. Each faculty member rated which of the seven stages of a PLC currently reflected our work. Seeing the professional growth we have made so far this year with student-learning-centered PLCs is exciting. CVES will continue to utilize PLCs to ensure we are continually collaborating and making informed instructional decisions to provide a high-quality curriculum and meet the instructional needs of our students. I am so grateful for the teamwork and dedication our CVES Faculty and Staff have for providing a high-quality curriculum and high expectations for our CVES students! CVES is “Better Together” as we continue to learn, grow, and focus on student learning.

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](http://troup.org), visit troup.org and the Troup County School System Facebook page.

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