Curriculum/Technology/Student Service Committee Meeting

Upper Merion Area School District
September 18, 2023

Agenda

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging - 2023-2024

Future Ready Comprehensive Planning Phases

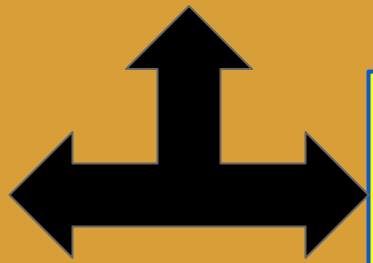
Artificial Intelligence - initial thoughts

Curriculum and Instruction - State of the Union

District-wide Focus: Intersectionality

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (Belonging)

Effective Instructional Practices

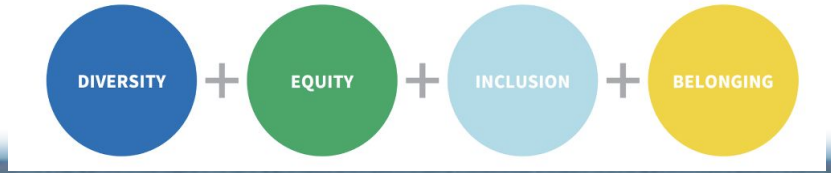


Social & Emotional Learning

Academic Achievement

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging Plan

1. Focus on parent and family collaboration
2. Update DEIB Plan - Data collection & Analysis - collecting benchmark data
3. Administrators and Teacher Leaders
   a. Training in cultural proficiency
   b. Equity Learning Walks in each building - provide data
      i. Classroom learning environment
      ii. Public spaces



Future Ready Comprehensive Plan Timeline

1. Needs Assessment: collect & analyze current data with stakeholders - September 2023 through January 2024
   a. Identify strengths and challenges
   b. Goal setting, action plans and professional development
2. Present to community the summary for a first read - February 5, 2024
3. Present to community the summary for a final read & approval- March 4, 2024
4. Submit final plan to PDE and post on UMASD website by March 31, 2024

Pennsylvania Department of Education
Future Ready Comprehensive Planning
Upper Merion Area SD

Artificial Intelligence - initial thoughts

AI technology is advancing rapidly…

benefits: personalizing learning journeys for students, streamlining administrative tasks so that teachers can spend more time on teaching

concerns/ethics: generative AI tools are and will be prohibited for direct completion of assignments

All our students will grow up to work with AI in some capacity, so we need to teach students how to become great prompt engineers

Artificial Intelligence - initial thoughts

As we move forward…

- for students under 13, we recommend no approved use
- for students 13 and over, we will recommend use of AI with family permission
- like calculators, the world wide web, and Wikipedia – AI will affect how we do school
- thinking and using AI are not mutually exclusive
- we will focus on conversations, collaboration, and organizing on a variety of levels to find a new normal

Artificial Intelligence - initial thoughts

Are there concerns with AI? Yes! But…

<u>Our District aim</u> regarding AI is to create an environment where AI will – in time – come to serve as an instructional tool while preserving the value of authentic student work

Humanities Updates - elementary



Responsive Classroom®

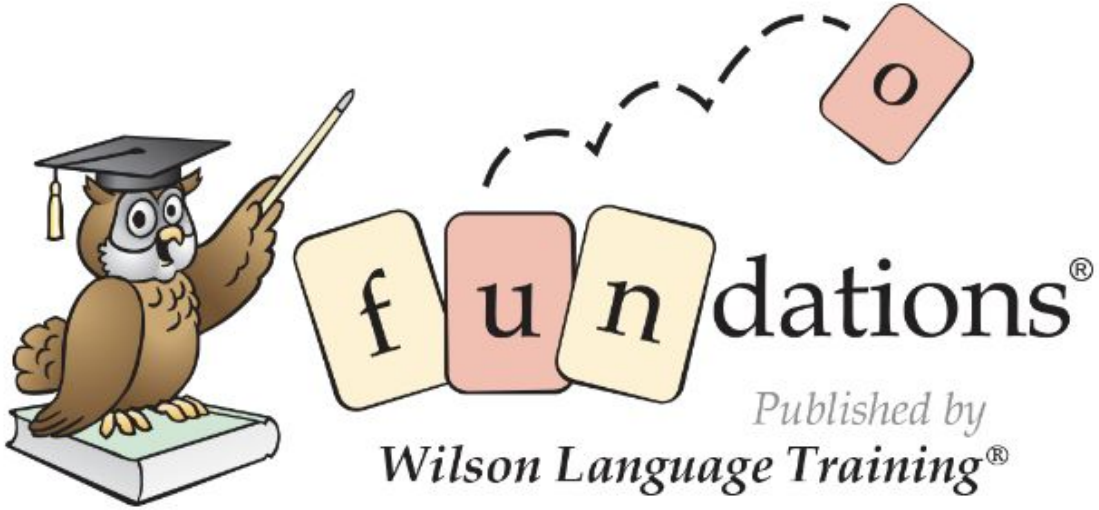
1. Greeting
2. Sharing
3. Group Activity
4. Morning Message

Humanities Updates - elementary



Cooperation
Assertiveness
Responsibility
Empathy
Self-Control

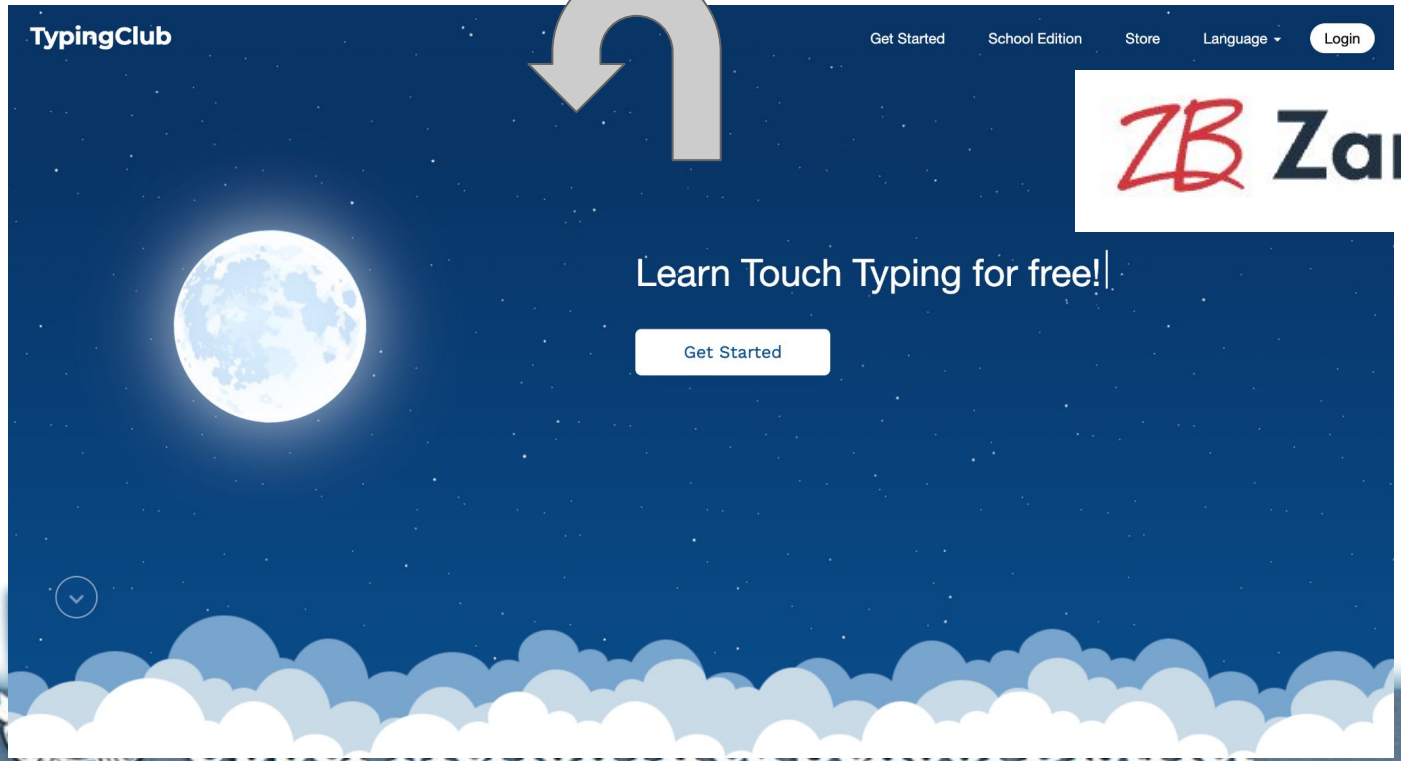
Humanities Updates - elem & MS



30 minutes everyday in K, 1, 2

WILSON® just words®

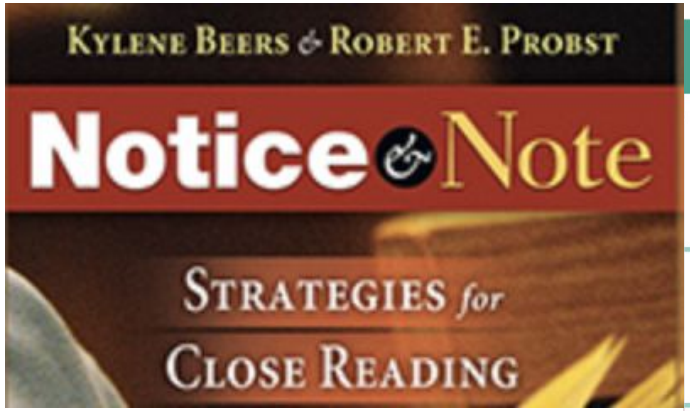
Typing K-8 and Cursive 3-4



ZB Zaner-Bloser

Dynamic TDA writing (Gr 4-8)

- Address prompt by introducing **TWO** literary devices or literary structures
- Critique the **author's purpose** (Why it's written) and the **author's craft** (How it's written)
- Develop essay by making **claims**, point to **evidence**, state **reasoning** (establish your own voice, tone, style)
- Refer to explicit **quotes** and implicit **inferences** in textual meanings
- Use precise language, clean grammar, and finish strong

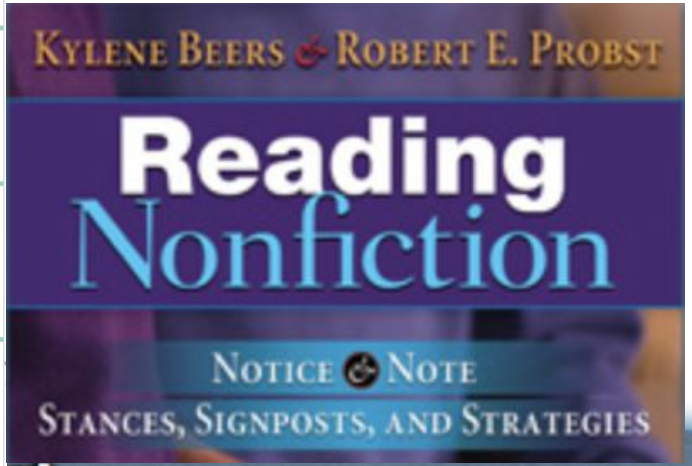


- Contrasts and Contradictions
- Aha Moment
- Tough Questions
- Words of the Wiser
- Again and Again
- Memory Moment

Into Literature Notice & Note Signposts for Literary Texts	*Into Literature* Notice & Note Signposts for Informational Texts
Contrasts and Contradictions — Why would the character act (feel) this way? — CC	**Big Questions** — What surprised me? What did the author think I already knew? What challenged, changed, or confirmed what I already knew? — BQ
Aha Moment — How might this change things? — AM	**Contrasts and Contradictions** — What is the difference and why does it matter? — CC
Tough Questions — What does this question make me wonder about? — TQ	**Extreme or Absolute Language** — Why did the author use this language? — XL
Words of the Wiser — What's the life lesson and how might it affect the character? — WW	**Numbers and Stats** — Why did the author use these numbers or amounts? — NS
Again and Again — Why might the author bring this up again and again? — AA	**Quoted Words** — Why was this person quoted or cited and what did this add? — QW
Memory Moment — Why might this memory be important? — MM	**Word Gaps** — Do I know this word from someplace else? Does it seem like technical talk for this topic? Can I find clues in the sentence to help me understand the word? — WG

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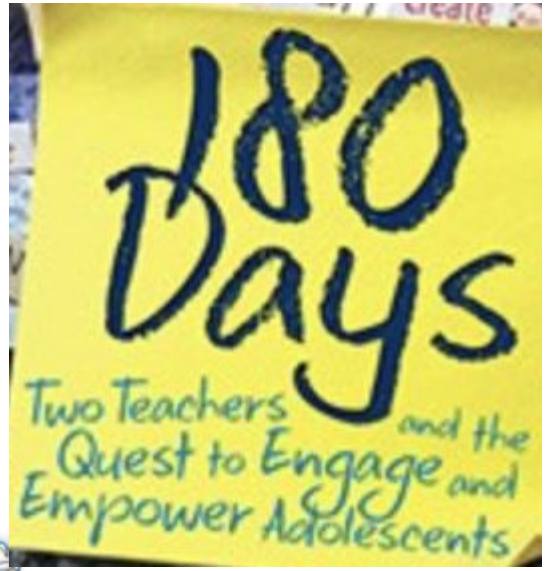
- Contrasts and Contradictions
- Extreme or Absolute Language
- Numbers and Stats
- Quoted Words
- Word Gaps



DBQ

High School Updates

Document-based question









Upper Merion Ar



French



German



Arabic



Spanish



Spanish



Spanish



Portuguese



Spanish



Spanish



Spanish



French



Spanish

Elem - telling parents, “Don’t lose your native language”

Middle - new Spanish section for heritage speakers

High - reconvening our Seal of Biliteracy committee this fall to consider Juniors and Seniors (11 already qualified)

STEM Updates

Kindergarten

TRAPEZIUM MATH®

Joyful, confidence-building math!



- **C**ounting
- **R**easoning
- **A**utomaticity
- **F**luency
- **T**™enacity

STEM Updates

FIRST IN MATH®

Energizing Every Child to Learn, Love and Live Math®

K - 4th Grade

2-Year Implementation

Year 1 (this year)

- Just the Facts (3x/year)
- Class of the Week Trophy
- 15 mins in Extension Period

Year 2 (2023-2024)

- Everything from Year 1
- Player of the Day
- Goals Index = 60%
- Player of the Month Yard Signs

STEM Updates



MATH ACCELERATION

5th - 7th Grade
Underrepresented Populations

2022 - 2023 (this past school year)

- Identified students on-grade level from Underrepresented Groups
- Each math teacher chose 1 student to support throughout the year
- Monthly check-ins with math team - how are the students doing?
- Enrichment regularly with Math Plus teacher

<u>Results</u> = 8 out of 14 students met the criteria for 2-year math acceleration!!!!!!!

STEM Updates

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING, AND
ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY & SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS
(STEELS)

K - 12th Grade New Science Standards
Multi-Year Implementation

Year Zero (this year)
- Learn about STEELS
- PD Workshops
  - +Nov, Feb, May
  - +1-day workshops during the year

Following Years (2024-2030)
- Create 1 STEELS Unit per Year
- All other units stay the same
- Create a new unit each year
- 5 - 6 years to create all units

Thank you for all of your support!

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