

Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness 3 Program

Grantee Information:

Grantee: **Westfield Academy and Central School District**

Abstract:

The Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness 3 Grant will be utilized by the Westfield Central School District in the following ways:

1. To encourage and develop teacher leaders in the area of Thoughtful Education (Silver and Strong) practice. These teacher leaders will in turn work with and support teachers and student teachers that are new to Thoughtful Education. This program will support teachers designated as “leader” teachers to work with “novice” teachers and more experienced teachers seeking to develop classroom instructional skills that will enable them to reach all four learning styles. This grant will also expand the opportunities for release time for teachers to collaborate, observe others, and participate in professional development.
2. To support teachers in instruction and learning with the services of a teacher (Tech Education Teacher), or TET, who is well versed in the use of educational technology. This person will be assigned to work directly with individual and small groups of K-5 teachers utilizing a coaching model. It is anticipated that this process will enable our K-5 staff to more fully integrate instructional technologies into the classroom and generate capable leaders in this area. The TET will model lessons and provide support in the classroom as teachers are integrating technologies into their classroom. Staff development will also be conducted during scheduled professional development days and building level meetings. The integration of new technologies into classroom lessons would assist in all students acquiring a deeper understanding of curriculum and the creation of a new digital learning environment.
3. To support teachers at the secondary level the district will provide a data driven instruction coach (DDI coach) to work with colleagues on using data to drive instructional decisions to improve student performance through analysis and reflection.

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The DDI coach will coordinate the meetings at the start of the year and eventually turn the meetings over to the teachers in each department.

4. To coordinate the Thoughtful Education Professional Learning Communities (PLC) and the DDI activities there will be a dedicated half-time teacher leader. This teacher leader will be working with all members of the PLC and all DDI teams to support colleagues in the classroom implementation of Thoughtful Education and data driven instruction. This will provide continuity of implementation and program throughout the grade levels.
5. The Novice Principal/Data Coordinator will lead data-driven team meetings and use Thoughtful education strategies to address areas in need and create action plans with teachers to take back to the classroom, visit classrooms to observe implementation of strategies, collect data and bring data back to meetings.
6. The Professional Leader Principal will be responsible for implementing change by building a common vision of quality teaching, student performance and learning improvement backed by data.

Project Contact:

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Title: Superintendent

District: Westfield Academy and Central School District