



Garrett County Public Schools

Professional Development Plan 2024-2025



**Building Strong
Partnerships:
Fostering Education
and Collaboration
Among Garrett
County Schools,
Families, and
Communities**



Garrett County Public Schools Professional Development 2024-2025

Garrett County Public Schools

Building Strong Partnerships: Fostering Education and Collaboration Among
Garrett County Schools, Families, and Communities.

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Table of Contents

<u>Acknowledgements and Feedback</u>	5
<u>GCPS Summer Work and Alignment with Goals</u>	6
<u>GCPS Professional Learning Priorities</u>	7
<u>GCPS Academic Calendar At A Glance</u>	8
<u>Professional Development Guidelines</u>	9
<u>Opening Week Professional Learning</u>	10-11
<u>GCPS Professional Development Calendar</u>	12
<u>BEST Class New Teacher Induction</u>	13-14
<u>GCPS County-Wide ½ Day Professional Learning</u>	15-20
October 10th- Elementary Countywide ½ day Plan	
November 11th- Secondary Countywide ½ Day Plan	
December 10th Countywide ½ Day Plan	
March 26th Countywide ½ Day Plan	
<u>Early Childhood Education Professional Learning</u>	22-23
<u>GCPS MTSS Professional Learning Opportunities</u>	24-26
<u>Science of Reading Professional Learning (MSDE/GCPS)</u>	27-29
<u>Gifted and Talented Professional Learning Opportunities</u>	30-31
<u>National Board Certification Professional Learning</u>	32-35
<u>Maryland State Department of Education Opportunities</u>	36-37



Acknowledgments and Feedback

We sincerely thank everyone who participated in the GCPS Professional Development Survey this past spring, as well as those who contributed to various Professional Learning Committees. Nearly 200 staff members from diverse roles and schools provided valuable feedback, with additional insights gathered through the professional learning committee and study group. This collective input played a crucial role in shaping the Garrett County Public Schools Professional Development Plan.



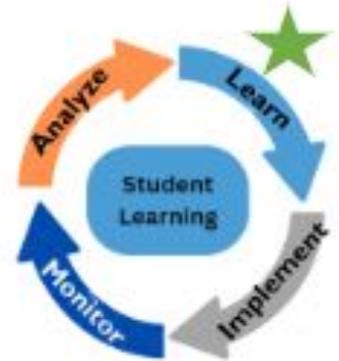
Thanks for the feedback!



Garrett County Public Schools Professional Development 2024-2025

Garrett County Public Schools is dedicated to delivering high-quality, relevant, and professional development for its staff. Over the summer, efforts were initiated to address priorities identified through staff feedback. As a result, the following professional development opportunities were provided:

- Coaching/PLC Professional Learning
- Exploring Behavior Fundamentals (CPI/Ukero)
- LETRS Volume 2 Content Training
- Elementary Curriculum Mapping and Collaboration
- Autism Training
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) Committee Work
- Review of High-Quality Instructional Materials (Science)
- Standards Based Instruction: Ongoing Assessment Project (OGAP) Math training



Additionally, the New Teacher Orientation program, also known as the [BEST class](#), was redesigned into a three-day experience. This revamped program focused on the essential content needed for a successful start to the school year. Sessions were tailored to address the specific needs of new employees, including those in special education, student support services, and Community School Specialists.

Further BEST sessions will be integrated throughout the school year, building upon new teacher feedback. These sessions will combine targeted content presentations with opportunities for peer observation and reflection, ensuring continuous professional growth.

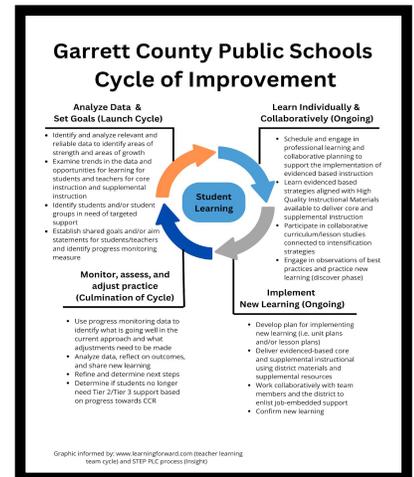
The Professional Development Plan aligns with the goals of the GCPS Blueprint Strategic Plan as well as the broader objectives of the school system:

- **Instructional Quality:** There is clear evidence that teachers are utilizing high-quality instructional materials and resources to deliver explicit instruction in 100% of math and literacy classrooms.
- **Teacher Confidence:** The percentage of the teachers who feel confident in providing evidence-based instruction as measured by professional learning surveys will increase to by 10%
- **Rigorous Learning Environment:** All students will be engaged in a rigorous instructional environment designed to challenge them and prepare them to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.
- **Employee Effectiveness:** All employees will be highly qualified and effective in their roles, contributing to a self-renewing, innovative organization.
- **Credentialing:** 100% of new and returning teachers and staff across all PK3-12 schools and programs will hold the appropriate credentials necessary for their positions.

Garrett County Public Schools Professional Learning Priorities 2024-2025

Multi-Tiered System of Supports:

Over the summer, a diverse committee of teachers from all grade bands, building administrators, and central office staff dedicated several days to researching and reflecting on the school system's framework for core instruction and supplemental support. The committee's directive was to develop a three-year strategic plan to implement a high-quality Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), with a focus on robust core instruction and additional support for students in need. As a result of this collaborative effort, the [MTSS Playbook](#) was created to guide the first year of implementation. To ensure the successful execution of this priority, professional development will emphasize the cycle of continuous improvement and the MTSS process utilizing consistent protocols.



The MTSS model is proactive and preventive, integrating instruction and interventions to support students' diverse needs. Central to this learning are the key components of MTSS:

- **Screening:** Regular assessments to identify students at risk, enabling timely interventions.
- **Multi-Tiered Support:** A three-tiered approach:
 - **Tier 1:** Universal instruction for all students.
 - **Tier 2:** Targeted interventions for those needing additional support.
 - **Tier 3:** Intensive, individualized interventions for students with significant needs.
- **Progress Monitoring:** Continuous assessment of student progress to evaluate intervention effectiveness and guide instructional adjustments.
- **Data-Based Decision Making:** Leveraging data to inform instructional strategies, interventions, and resource allocation, ensuring that students receive the appropriate level of supports

Explicit Instruction:

Based on the research completed by the MTSS committee over the summer, the team elevated explicit instruction as the first evidenced based strategy to focus on countywide. Explicit instruction is a structured, evidence-based teaching strategy that breaks down complex skills into manageable steps. It promotes active student engagement through clear modeling, guided practice, and immediate feedback. Students are encouraged to think aloud and interact with peers, fostering deeper understanding and confidence. By ensuring active student participation, explicit instruction significantly improves both comprehension and mastery of the material. The MTSS committee work can be found at this [link](#) along with more information about explicit instruction.

Professional Learning Communities:

To enhance the MTSS process and ensure high-quality instruction at all tiers, GCPS will strengthen both school-level and cross-district Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). This structure will promote increased collaboration, a focused approach to data-driven instruction, and collaborative planning aimed at refining explicit instruction and best practices. Through PLCs, staff will engage in the continuous improvement cycle outlined in the MTSS Playbook, facilitating professional dialogue on pedagogy and content to effectively meet the diverse needs of all students.



GCPS Academic Calendar at a Glance



2024-25 GCPS Calendar at a Glance



AUGUST

26 Teacher Workday
27-30 Staff Development/Professional Days

SEPTEMBER

2 Labor Day (GCPS Closed)
3 First Student Day (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
18 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)

OCTOBER

10 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
11 Autumn Glory (GCPS Closed)

NOVEMBER

5 Election Day (GCPS Closed)
11 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
27 Three-hour early dismissal for students
28-29 Thanksgiving Break (GCPS Closed)

DECEMBER

2 Thanksgiving Break (Schools Closed)
10 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
20 Three-hour early dismissal for students
23-31 Winter Break (GCPS Closed)

JANUARY

1 New Year's Day (GCPS Closed)
2 Schools Reopen
17 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (GCPS Closed) ❄️
27 Professional Day** (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
The 91st day of the school year will "float" in the event of inclement weather.
30 Parent/Teacher Conferences **11:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.** (Schools Closed)

FEBRUARY

14 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
17 Presidents' Day (GCPS Closed) ❄️

MARCH

26 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)

APRIL

10 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
18 Good Friday (GCPS Closed)
21 Easter Monday (GCPS Closed) ❄️

MAY

26 Memorial Day (GCPS Closed)
27 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
31 High School Graduation

JUNE

5 Three-hour early dismissal for students
6 Last day of School (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
9 Professional Day (Last day for teachers)

MAKE-UP DAYS

Make-up days are tentative and will be determined by the Board of Education.

Reminder: There are three make-up days scheduled during the school year to account for potential inclement weather. These make-up dates are marked with snowflakes and will be used in numerical order as possible make-up days, starting with January 20, 2025. Since it's impossible to predict inclement weather days or emergency system-wide closings, it is recommended that vacations not be scheduled until at least after June 13th to avoid any scheduling conflicts.
If additional days are needed the school year will be extended to meet the state requirement of 180 days.



** The 91st day provides a professional day for teachers to bring closure to the first semester/2nd grading term.

GCBOE Approved Calendar 3/12/24



Professional Development Guidelines

Click on each to view the corresponding policy/procedure document.



[DKCA Travel and Incidental Expenses Policy](#)



[DKCA Travel and Incidental Expenses Procedure](#)



[GBR Participation at Conferences and Meetings Policy](#)



[GBR Participation at Conferences and Meetings Procedure](#)



[IHOA Leaving School for Curricular, Co-Curricular or Extra Curricular Events Policy](#)



[IHOA Leaving School for Curricular, Co-Curricular or Extra Curricular Events Procedure](#)



[GCLA Attendance at Professional Development Policy](#)



[GCLA Attendance at Professional Development Procedure](#)



Opening Week Professional Learning

August 29, 2024

New Health Instructional Materials Professional Learning and District Guidance (K-5)

Credit Hours: 2 Hours (8:30-10:30)

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Elementary Health Teachers

Session Description: Provide teachers with an overview of the COMAR regulations around Health Education and the GCPS Opt Out Process for family life and human sexuality standards. Teachers will have an opportunity to explore new high quality instructional materials (HQIM) and collaborate around implementation. Health Smart will provide virtual professional learning to support teachers in utilizing the instructional materials.

Facilitator: Mrs. Dawna Ashby, Ms. Angel Simms, Mrs. Rebecca Aiken, and Health Smart

Location: CTTC Building Rooms 107 and 5108

Overview of the MTSS Playbook and Launch of Tier 1 Cycle (Secondary)

Credit Hours: 2 Hours (9:00-11:00)

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Secondary Math, ELA, and Inclusion Special Education Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will explore the district MTSS Playbook with an emphasis placed on explicit instruction, Tier I Guidance & i-Ready Expectations, as well as the Tier I MTSS cycles. Teachers will work in school based groups to begin the data analysis part of the MTSS Cycle.

Facilitator: Mrs. Amy Warnick and Members of the MTSS District Committee

Location: Southern High School Media Center

Explore enVision Mathematics (HQIM) 2024

Credit Hours: Elementary (2 hours- 12:30-2:30)

Secondary (2.5 hours 1:00-3:30)

Format of PD: Virtual

Audience: All math and special education teachers K-12

Session Description: Ready to kick off your instruction with enVision Mathematics? Prepare for day one and beyond. As you navigate through the print and digital program features, you will

- learn the key elements of the enVision Mathematics topic and lesson structure;
- dive in to print components and digital resources on Savvas Realize™; and
- explore innovative ways to strengthen your instruction and increase student engagement.

You'll leave the session equipped with

- a Teacher Toolkit to support you as you begin your journey;
- resources for planning and teaching with enVision Mathematics; and
- guided tours to help you navigate the digital components.

Facilitator: Savvas Learning Company

Location: Virtual

Music (HQIM) Professional Learning (PK-5)

Credit Hours: 1 Hour

Format of PD: Virtual (10:00-11:00)

Audience: Elementary Music Teachers

Session Description: Quaver will provide an overview of the music instructional resource including key elements of the program. Teachers will be able to ask questions to support understanding of the resource.

Facilitator: Quaver Company

Location: Virtual



Opening Week Professional Learning

August 29, 2024

Instructional Assistant, RBT, & TBA Beginning of the Year Training

Credit Hours: 3 Hours (8:30-11:30)

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Special Education Instructional Assistants, RBT's, and TBA's

Session Description: Special Education Instructional Assistants will be provided with training on behavior management skills and how to help students develop appropriate behavior management skills. Instructional Assistants will also be provided training on how to complete Therapeutic Behavioral Aide (TBA) documentation and have time to work with licensed school-based professionals to review individual student Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs).

Facilitator: Dr. Chelsie Manges

Location: Garrett College, Room 111

Overview of the MTSS Playbook (Elementary)

Credit Hours: 1 Hour (2:30-3:30)

Format of PD: Virtual

Audience: Elementary Math, ELA, Intervention and Inclusion Special Education Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will explore the district MTSS Playbook with an emphasis placed on explicit instruction, Tier I Guidance & i-Ready Expectations, as well as the Tier I MTSS cycles.

Facilitator: Mrs. Annie Ross and Mrs. Candy Maust

Location: Virtual

Student Services District Wide Professional Learning Community

Credit Hours: 3 Hours

Format of PD: In Person

Audience: School Counselors, Social Workers, School Psychologists, Behavioral Coaches, Registered Behavior Technicians and Community School Specialists

Session Description: Beginning of the year meeting for all Student Service staff. Staff will review the newly created Student Service Handbook which includes the county's coordinated services plan and many other Student Services related resources and documents.

Facilitator: Mr. John Hummel

Location: Garrett College, Room 111

Differentiation with Gifted and Talented Students

Credit Hours: 1 Hour

Format of PD: Video w/ In-Person Activity

Audience: All teachers

Session Description: Teachers will preview a video highlighting differentiation strategies specific to acceleration and enrichment. Teachers will then work in groups to complete an on-site activity to apply new learning to lessons they currently teach.

Facilitator: Mr. Mitchell Hall & Principals

Location: Individual Schools



GCPS Professional Development Calendar

The Professional Development calendar has been organized in [calendar form](#). Below are a list of months and a “sample” of offerings within that month.

August 2024

- A & S Back to School
- BEST Class: New Teachers/Staff
- IMSE- Select New Teachers
- Early Childhood: Effective Classroom Management: Building Better Routines
- Opening Week Professional Learning

September 2024

- Secondary ELA MTSS: Tier I Explicit Instruction PD
- Secondary Math MTSS: Tier I, Math Screener PD, Explicit Instruction, and HQIM Exploration
- ½ Day School Based PD
- BEST Class- Student Services and Observation/Evaluation PD

October 2024

- Elementary Lead Teacher PD on MTSS Launch (½ day)
- BEST Class- Student Services and Observation/Evaluation PD
- **Elementary County-Wide ½ Day** (Launch MTSS) * see calendar for more details
- Early Childhood Professional Learning: Designing & Implementing Purposeful Centers
- Elementary MTSS PD on Explicit Instruction and HQIM

November 2024

- **Secondary County-Wide ½ day (See calendar for details)**

December 2024

- **County-Wide Day:** Panorama PD
- BEST class- Follow Up (**Tentative**)
- Elementary District-Wide PLC’s: Tier I Cycle Progress Monitoring, Reflection, and Launch Cycle 2.

January 2025

- Secondary ELA PD (Fluency)
- Elementary Intervention PD: Launching Tier 2 & 3
- Secondary Math PD (Success Maker & Explicit Instruction w/ HQIM)
- ½ Day School Based PD

February 2025

- Secondary Launch of Tier 2 & 3 MTSS Cycle in County-Wide PLC (ELA: AM & Math PM)
- ½ Day School Based PD

March 2025

- Early Childhood: Marvelous Math: AM: Counting & Cardinality PM: Geometry & Spatial Sense
- **County Wide ½ Day PD**

April 2025

- ½ Day School Based Day

May 2025

- Early Childhood PD: Title TBD (AM) and Transition Meetings (PM)
- ½ Day School Based Day

June 2025

- TBD

* Note: The ½ day professional development days will be as follows:

- Elementary County-Wide Day: October 10th
- Secondary County-Wide Day: November 11th
- All Levels County-Wide Day: December 10th
- All Levels County-Wide Day: March 26th

Please reference the PD calendar (link at top of page) for more information as this calendar will be updated throughout the year.



GCPS BEST Class for New Teachers & Staff



BEST Class for New Teachers and Staff

This year, the BEST program for new teachers and staff was redesigned to incorporate three full days of training prior to the commencement of the school year, aimed at equipping new staff members with essential knowledge for a successful start. The agenda for this training can be accessed [here](#) for reference. The agenda includes topics such as school security, Schoology, and PowerSchool, along with professional development on state standards and high-quality instructional materials. The training concluded with a day dedicated to collaborating with a mentor teacher to plan the first week of instruction. Additionally, the agenda featured differentiated sessions tailored to the distinct roles and responsibilities of various staff members.

The vision is to integrate multiple BEST class opportunities into the school year, emphasizing practical, in-field learning experiences, where possible. The first session will be held on September 26 and October 1, with a second session tentatively scheduled for December. Further details regarding these opportunities are provided below.

BEST Class: September/October 2024

Dates: September 26th and October 3rd

Credit Hours: 6 hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: 1st Year Teachers w/ GCPS

Session Description: New teachers will have the opportunity to gain a comprehensive understanding of student support services within GCPS and the teacher observation and evaluation process. The afternoon will be dedicated to observing and shadowing experienced teachers, with a focus on classroom management strategies and exemplary instructional practices.

Facilitator: Mrs. Janet Gregory, Mr. John Hummel, Mr. Paul Edwards, Mrs. Dawna Ashby, and Dr. Nicole Miller

Location: Garrett College and Specific Schools

BEST Class: December 2024

Dates: December 11th and 12th (Tentative)

Credit Hours: 6 hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: 1st Year Teachers w/ GCPS

Session Description: TBD



Facilitator: Mrs. Janet Gregory & TBD

Location: Garrett College and Specific Schools



GCPS

County-Wide Professional Development



October 10, 2024

Elementary Only County-Wide ½ Day Plan

Elementary MTSS Launch

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Elementary Classroom Teachers (K-5), Elementary Intervention Teachers and Elementary Special Education Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will take deep dive into the MTSS Playbook, with specific emphasis on utilizing the PLC agenda and Tier I Data Analysis Protocol. Additional professional learning will be provided on explicit instruction aligned with the school systems High Quality Instructional Materials. Using a collaborative approach, teachers will analyze data using the data protocol, identify root causes associated with learning gaps, and create a plan of action to implement in the coming weeks.

Facilitator: Mrs. Candy Maust, Dr. Nicole Miller, & Elementary Teacher Leaders

Location: Garrett College, Rooms 103, 107, 111, 304, 305

Elementary Student Support Staff Professional Learning Community

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Elementary School Counselors, Social Workers and Psychologists

Session Description: Staff will meet to review the Student Services coordinated services plan and discuss successes and growth opportunities based on these new norms. Staff will also have time to review SEL lessons and curriculum and collaborate with others to discuss student growth measures.

Facilitator: Mr. John Hummel

Location: Garrett College, Old Auditorium

Fine Arts Professional Learning Community

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Elementary Fine Arts Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will begin the initial planning of the Fine Arts Fair to be held in Spring 2025. * Secondary Fine Arts teachers will be invited with Principal approval.

Facilitator: Mrs. Dawna Ashby

Location: CTTC Building (Open Bay)- 5108

Elementary Instructional Assistants

Credit Hours: 2 hours (may vary depending on course)

Format of PD: Virtual

Audience: Early Childhood, Special Education, and Media Instructional Assistants

Session Description: Staff will be provided with options through Vector Solutions specifically for paraprofessionals in the areas of early childhood, elementary education, and special education to select from. Staff should complete at least 2 sessions. Specific options will be sent to staff via email.

Facilitator: Vector Solutions

Location: Virtual



October 10, 2024

Elementary Only County-Wide ½ Day Plan

Early Childhood Teachers

Credit Hours: 2.5
Format of PD: In-person
Audience: Pre-K3, Pre-K4, Judy Center Teachers

Session Description: This workshop will focus on enhancing educators' skills in fostering inclusive and engaging learning environments through centers. Participants will learn best practices for promoting social-emotional development, incorporating play-based learning strategies, and sharing successful centers used around the county. Early childhood staff will also receive practical strategies to support students with toilet training to support children in this critical developmental phase. Participants will learn the importance of consistency and collaboration with families, offering resources and tools to help guide children through the toilet training process.

Facilitator: Mrs. Carrie Wampler

Location: CTTC Building, Room 107

STARS Staff Professional Learning Community

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours
Format of PD: In-Person
Audience: Elementary STARS Teachers, Assistants and Behavior Coaches

Session Description: Staff will have a chance to collaborate with each other and discuss ideas to better serve the STARS population. Lesson planning, data collection, and review along with brainstorming strategies will be discussed.

Facilitator: Mr. John Hummel

Location: Garrett College Room, TBD

Nurses Professional Learning

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours
Format of PD: In-Person
Audience: School Health Services Nurses

Session Description: School-Based Student Wellness Teams: Participants will give an overview of their existing school wellness teams and team leadership. The results of the Google survey will be discussed. Resources for teams, including essential functions, duties, responsibilities, and goal setting, will be addressed.

Facilitator: Mrs. Becky Aiken

Location: Accident Elementary Library

Attendance Coding Training

Credit Hours: 1 hour
Format of PD: In-Person
Audience: All Secretaries in charge of Attendance Coding

Session Description: School Attendance Secretaries will review attendance codes from the GCPS Student Handbook and Maryland Student Records Manual and discuss different situations that have and can happen in regards to students attendance.

Facilitator: Mr. John Hummel and Ms. Lindsey Strubin

Location: Garrett College Room, TBD



November 11, 2024

Secondary Only County-Wide ½ Day Plan

Secondary MTSS: Tier 1 Cycle 1

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Secondary ELA, Math, and Special Education Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will build off of the September 11th & 12th professional learning opportunities focused on launching Cycle 1 of Tier I instruction by completing the progress monitoring & reflection components of the data protocol and continuous cycle of improvement. This component includes looking at student work and progress monitoring data identified at the start of the cycle.

Facilitator: Mrs. Amy Warnick & Teacher Leaders

Location: TBD

Secondary Social Studies and Science Professional Learning Community

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Secondary Social Studies & Science Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will participate in county-wide PLC's specific to their content area. Teachers should utilize the PLC agenda found in the MTSS Playbook to discuss instructional practices with a focus on learning about the evidenced based practice of explicit instruction.

Facilitator: TBD

Location: TBD

Special Olympics Maryland Professional Learning

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Secondary Physical Education Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will engage with Special Olympics Maryland staff on Unified Physical Education - Modifications/Adaptations. [See Flyer](#)

* Elementary physical education teachers will be invited with principal permission.

Facilitator: Special Olympics Maryland

Location: Northern Middle School Gym

Career Technical Education Professional Learning Committee

Credit Hours: 2.5 hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Secondary CTE Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will be updated on the newest state approved Industry Recognized Credential list, be updated on material and equipment orders, discuss new Perkins monthly check-ins with MSDE, and be able to ask questions about future projects and planning.

Facilitator: Mr. Paul Edwards

Location: Garrett College room 103



November 11, 2024

Secondary Only County-Wide ½ Day Plan

Secondary Student Support Staff PLC

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Secondary School Counselors, Social Workers and Psychologists

Session Description: Staff will meet to review the Student Services coordinated services plan and discuss successes and growth opportunities based on these new norms. Staff will also have time to collaborate with others to discuss student growth measures. Time will also be provided to get into Naviance and discuss how Student Services staff can help students become college and career ready by the end of tenth grade.

Facilitator: Mr. John Hummel

Location: Garrett College Room TBD

STARS Teachers PLC

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Secondary STARS Teachers, Assistants and Behavior Coaches

Session Description: Staff will have a chance to collaborate with each other and discuss ideas to better serve the STARS population. Lesson planning, data collection and review along with brainstorming strategies will be discussed.

Facilitator: Mr. John Hummel

Location: Garrett College Room TBD

Nurse Professional Learning

Credit Hours: 2.5

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: School Health Services Nurses

Session Description: Schoology- Uses for School Health: Nurses will learn the basics of Schoology and how it can enhance the school nurse's role. The brainstorming session will include examples of how other districts have used it to have a parent "health center" for sharing forms and information, as well as a staff and student center.

Facilitator: Mrs. Becky Aiken

Location: Garrett College Room TBD

Secondary Fine Arts PLC

Credit Hours: 2.5

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Secondary Fine Arts Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will begin the initial planning of the Fine Arts Fair to be held in Spring 2025. * Elementary Fine Arts teachers will be invited with Principal approval.

Facilitator: Mrs. Dawna Ashby

Location: Garrett College 107A

Secondary Instructional Assistants

Credit Hours: 2 hours (may vary depending on course)

Format of PD: Virtual

Audience: Secondary Instructional Assistants

Session Description: Staff will be provided with options through Vector Solutions specifically for paraprofessionals in the areas of special education to select from. Staff should complete at least 2 sessions. Specific options will be sent to staff via email.

Facilitator: Vector Solutions

Location: Virtual

Wellness Committee

Credit Hours: 2.5 hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Committee Members

Session Description: The Wellness Committee will hold their fall meeting. Topics will include the recent Triennial Survey Results and supplemental health curriculum materials.

Facilitator: Dr. Nicole Miller, Mrs. Becky Aiken, Scott Germain

Location: TBD



December 10, 2024

County-Wide ½ Day Plan

Panorama Platform Professional Learning (All Grade Bands)

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: All Teachers and All Student Service Support,

Session Description: Utilizing a train the trainer model, teachers will be provided an overview of the Panorama Platform that will be utilized to implement the Behavioral Health Screener as well as support the academic and behavioral MTSS process. Staff will have an opportunity to explore the platform and review current data specific to their students. At the end of the training, staff will be able to navigate the platform and will understand expectations of use as the system transitions to full implementation.

Facilitator: Teacher/Admin Leaders in Each Building

Location: All Schools



March 26, 2024
County-Wide ½ Day Plan



Coming Soon!!

GCPS Early Childhood Professional Learning



Early Childhood Professional Learning Opportunities

Effective Classroom Management: Building Better Routines

Date: August 22, 2024

Credit Hours: 6 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Pre-K3 and Pre-K 4 Teachers and Instructional Assistants

Session Description: Join us as we explore ways to build a calm and engaging environment using effective classroom management strategies. Implementing a predictable daily schedule, with simple routines, and quick transitions with learning embedded creates consistency among children. In return, teachers can maximize learning time while children gain responsibility and autonomy. We will collaborate with our colleagues to develop a plan to implement clear and consistent expectations for effective routines and procedures.

Facilitator: Tammy Lee, Lakeshore Learning

Location: Garrett College, Room 107A

Designing & Implementing Purposeful Centers

Date: October 17, 2024

Credit Hours: 6 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Pre-K 3 & Pre-K 4 Teachers

Session Description: Play is a child's work. This widely accepted notion is one that fundamentally drives the work we do as early childhood educators. For many of our children, that work takes place primarily within centers. In this session, we will explore the concept of centers and what we can do to provide optimal conditions for in depth inquiry all while having FUN.

Facilitator: Tammy Lee, Lakeshore Learning

Location: Garrett College, Room 111

Marvelous Math: Counting & Cardinality/Geometry & Spatial Sense

Date: March 6, 2024

Credit Hours: 6 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 Teachers

Session Description: AM: Dive into the domains of math development beginning with counting and cardinality! Participants will gain an understanding of the concepts within the domain including counting numbers to 20, relationships between numbers and quantities, comparing numbers, and number writing. Participants will learn about strategies, activities, and materials to support these concepts. We will explore how to address the concepts and how to incorporate math language and vocabulary into every aspect of the day. PM: Spice up your geometry instruction! During this session, participants will learn engaging strategies and activities that support children's understanding of shape names and shape attributes. We will learn how to help children analyze, compare, and sort 2-D and 3-D shapes as well as build shapes. Participants will also learn how to effectively incorporate directionality, order, and positional words into their daily routines

Facilitator: Marley Lombay, Lakeshore Learning

Location: Garrett College, Room 111

Early Childhood Transition Meetings & TBD

Date: May 1, 2024

Credit Hours: 6 Hours

Format of PD: In- Person

Audience: Pre-K 3 & Pre_K 4 Teachers

Session Description: Describes anxiety development, brain function, and evidence-based practices for managing anxiety in youth.

Facilitator: GCPS, Judy Center, Head Start Administration

Location: Garrett College, CTTC Building



GCPS MTSS Professional Development Opportunities



MTSS Professional Development Opportunities

Secondary ELA MTSS & Explicit Instruction

Date: September 11, 2024

Credit Hours: 6.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: All Secondary ELA Teachers and Special Education Inclusion Teachers

Session Description: By leveraging the PLC and data protocols from the MTSS Playbook, teachers will collaboratively analyze both school and county-wide data to highlight key findings and identify root causes of learning gaps, contributing to an ongoing cycle of improvement. Professional learning will focus on the evidence-based strategy of explicit instruction, and teachers will develop a comprehensive learning plan for implementation.

Facilitator: Mrs. Amy Warnick

Location: Northern Middle School

Secondary Math MTSS & Explicit Instruction

Date: September 12, 2024

Credit Hours: 6.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: All Secondary Math Teachers and Special Education Inclusion Teachers

Session Description: By leveraging the PLC and data protocols from the MTSS Playbook, teachers will collaboratively analyze both school and county-wide data to highlight key findings and identify root causes of learning gaps, contributing to an ongoing cycle of improvement. Professional learning will focus on the evidence-based strategy of explicit instruction, and teachers will develop a comprehensive learning plan for implementation.

Facilitator: Mrs. Amy Warnick

Location: Northern Middle School

Explicit Instruction and HQIM at the Elementary Level

Dates: October 23, 24, and 29, 2024

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours (All sessions are half day)

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: 4th/5th Grade Teachers (October 23), 2nd/3rd Grade Teachers (October 24), and Kindergarten/1st Grade Teachers (October 29th). Special Education Inclusion Teachers will come to one session.

Session Description: Teachers will explore explicit instruction tools and choose strategies to apply in math and reading. The strategies emphasized will be used to enhance plan lessons.

Facilitator: Mrs. Candy Maust & Teacher Leaders

Location: TBD

Elementary County-Wide MTSS PLC

Dates: December 4, 5, 2024

Credit Hours: 1.5 Hours

Format of PD: Virtual

Audience: K-2 Teachers (December 4th) and 3-5 Teachers (December 5th). Special Education Inclusion Teachers (Sessions TBD)

Session Description: Teachers build off of early professional learning opportunities focused on launching Cycle 1 of Tier I instruction by completing the progress monitoring & reflection components of the data protocol and continuous cycle of improvement. This component includes looking at student work and progress monitoring data identified at the start of the cycle. Grade level teams will also prepare for launching Cycle 2 of Tier I Instruction.

Facilitator: Mrs. Candy Maust and Teacher Leaders

Location: Virtual



MTSS Professional Development Opportunities

Secondary ELA Evidenced Based Strategies to Support MTSS

Date: January 7, 2025

Credit Hours: 2.5-6.5 Hours (TBD)

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: All Secondary ELA Teachers and Special Education Inclusion Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will leverage Panorama to support data analysis for Tiers 2 & 3. Teachers will take a deep dive into an additional evidence-based strategy to support struggling learners through fluency building activities.

Facilitator: Mrs. Amy Warnick

Location: TBD

Success Maker (HQIM) & Evidenced Based Strategies

Date: January 14, 2025

Credit Hours: 2.5- 6,5 Hours (TBD)

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: All Secondary Math Teachers and Special Education Inclusion Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will leverage Panorama to support data analysis for Tiers 2 & 3 and will take a deep dive into an additional evidence-based strategy to support struggling learners through preteaching. Teachers will also explore SuccessMaker through the district provided HQIM for students needing more work with prerequisite skills.

Facilitator: Mrs. Amy Warnick

Location: TBD

Elementary MTSS Tier 2 & 3

Dates: January 8-9, 2025

Credit Hours: 2.5- 6.5 Hours (TBD)

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: Elementary Intervention Teachers

Session Description: Teachers will take a deep dive into the MTSS Playbook and leverage Panorama to support the launch of Tier 2 & 3 Cycle of Improvement. Teachers will analyze data and explicit instruction strategies and how to intensify services provided for struggling students.

Facilitator: Mrs. Candy Maust & Teacher Leaders

Location: TBD

Secondary Launch Tier 2 & 3 Cycle of Improvement for ELA & Math

Date: February 6, 2024

Credit Hours: 2.5 Hours

Format of PD: In-Person

Audience: ELA Teachers- Morning & Math-Afternoon. Special Education Inclusion will attend either ELA or Math

Session Description: Leveraging the MTSS Playbook and Panorama, teachers will collaboratively prepare to launch Tier 2 & 3 supplemental instruction.

Facilitator: Mrs. Amy Warnick

Location: TBD



GCPS & MSDE Science of Reading Professional Learning



MSDE Science of Reading Trainings

AIMS Pathway to Proficient Reading- Grades 5-12 MSDE Training

Format of PD: Virtual

Commitment Includes:

- 55 hours of asynchronous and synchronous learning
- Asynchronous Orientation and Pre-Course Knowledge Inventory Assessment
- 16 Section Pathways to Proficient Reading: Secondary Course ([Click for Detailed Syllabus](#))
- 6 one-hour, synchronous Virtual Community of Practice Sessions (VCoPs)
- 12 Month Access to the AIM Pathways platform to access, review, and apply materials in the classroom when needed
- 3 CPD credits (24-66-10)

Audience: 5th-12th grade teachers, All middle and high school educators, English Language Arts and content areas alike.

Session Description: AIM's Pathways to Proficient Reading: Secondary (PPR-S) course provides educators with comprehensive, IDA-accredited literacy training including articles, classroom resources, adolescent student profiles, and secondary classroom videos, to address the unique literacy needs of adolescent learners. Virtual Community of Practice sessions with expert AIM facilitators focus on hands-on practice to support classroom implementation so secondary teachers are knowledgeable in their implementation of evidence-based practices in middle and high school classrooms. All middle and high school educators, English Language Arts and content areas alike, should register for this learning opportunity that develops depth of knowledge around literacy development and proficiency across content areas.

Facilitator: AIMS Institute

Additional Details: This free Science of Reading course is being provided by MSDE. If you are interested, please reach out to Mrs. Candy Maust for registration purposes. GCPS has been allotted a specific number of seats over the next 4 years. At this time, GCPS is not able to offer stipends or substitutes for teachers to participate in the training.

AIMS Pathways for Literacy Leaders MSDE Training

Format of PD: Virtual and In-Person

Commitment Includes:

Completion of asynchronous pre-knowledge inventory

- 30-36 credit hours of learning
- AIMS Literacy 2 credits (24-66-12)
- Completion of 10 asynchronous learning sections
- Attendance and Participation at two, daylong in-person training sessions where you will work on a Literacy Plan for your organization.
- Completion of pre and post-knowledge inventories
- 12-Month Access to the AIM Pathways Platform so materials can be reviewed, applied and accessed in the classroom when needed.
- Pathways to Literacy Leadership Course Syllabus

Audience: District administrators, district office staff, school administrators (all levels) and literacy coaches who have not taken LETRS

Session Description: The Pathways to Literacy Leadership course equips educational leaders with the essential tools and strategies to develop, refine, and implement a comprehensive literacy plan tailored to their schools' needs. This course prepares participants aiming to establish a clear organizational vision for effective literacy instruction to drive change by implementing systems-based approaches that empower teachers to apply evidence-based practices in their classrooms.

Facilitator: AIMS Institute

Additional Details: This free Science of Reading course is being provided by MSDE. If you are interested, please reach out to Mrs. Candy Maust for registration purposes. GCPS has been allotted a specific number of seats over the next 4 years. At this time, GCPS is not able to offer stipends or substitutes for teachers to participate in the training.



MSDE/GCPS Science of Reading Professional Learning

SUNY (State of New York) Science of Reading: Fundamentals for Educators in Maryland Course Grades PK-12 MSDE Training

Format of PD: Virtual

Commitment Includes:

- 3 CPD credits (24-67-06)
- Teachers complete the course within 6 months
- Teachers share documentation verifying completion.

Audience: Teachers PK-12, Media Specialists, Paraprofessionals

Session Description: The Science of Reading Microcredential is a course of study that focuses on phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. It provides a fully online, self-paced, asynchronous curriculum that provides professional learning for purposes of Continuing Teacher and Leader Education. Upon successful completion of the Program, a participant receives a microcredential license that evidences 35 successful hours of professional learning. SUNY will make its Microcredential Program available to up to 27,500 Maryland paraprofessionals, teachers, and leaders at no charge. This will be available from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028.

Facilitator: SUNY

Additional Details: This free Science of Reading course is being provided by MSDE. If you are interested, please reach out to Mrs. Candy Maust for registration purposes. GCPS has been allotted a specific number of seats over the next 4 years. At this time, GCPS is not able to offer stipends or substitutes for teachers to participate in the training.

LETRS Science of Reading Training (GCPS)

Format of PD: Asynchronous modules and In-person

Commitment Includes:

- 12 College Credits (teacher pays fee) or 12 CPD Credits (2 Volumes) - 120 hours
- Teachers complete the modules for the Volumes within the license period
- Teacher attends in-person class during the summer
- Teachers signs a license contract with GCPS

Audience: Educators and leaders of PK-Grade 3, teachers working with fourth and fifth grade students who struggle to read

Session Description: LETRS

The Lexia LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling) comprehensive professional learning is designed to provide elementary educators with a deep knowledge to be literacy experts in the science of reading. Developed by Dr. Louisa Moats and leaders in the field of literacy, LEXIA LETRS teaches the skills needed to master the foundational and fundamentals of reading and writing instruction – phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and written language. LEXIA LETRS accelerates teacher knowledge, improves instruction, and changes the student literacy journey.

Facilitator: Modules: LEXIA, In-Person: District Trainer

Additional Details: LETRS is a comprehensive Science of Reading training that requires the completion of both volumes over a period of four years. At this time, GCPS is not able to offer stipends or substitutes for teachers to complete the training



GCPS Gifted and Talented Professional Learning Opportunities



GCPS Gifted and Talented Trainings

Initial Gifted and Talented Point of Contact Training

Date: August 19, 2024
Credit Hours: 5 Hours
Format of PD: In-Person
Audience: K-8 School Point of Contact for Gifted and Talented

Session Description: GT Point of Contacts will be provided training on the GT POC Guidance and Requirements, COMAR, GCPS Policy and Procedures, and the GT Handbook. Strategies will be shared for differentiating core instruction, compacting curriculum, on-site activities, combining content standards, and creating Individualized Learner Contracts to support identified gifted students. Additional GT lesson resources will be shared.

Facilitators: Mr. Mitchell Hall, Mrs. Candy Maust
Location: Garrett College Room 103

Differentiation for Gifted and Talented

Date: Week of August 23-27, 2024
Format of PD: In-Person
Audience: K-12 Educators

Session Description: Teachers will learn the definitions and characteristics of differentiation, acceleration, and enrichment. Kaplan's Depth and Complexity icons and Paynter's Aptitudes of Innovators will be shared with practical applications to provide Tier 1 differentiation. Teacher will be given time to create differentiation activities within a specific lesson planned for the next few weeks of instruction.

Facilitator: Mr. Hall, Building Principals
Location: Individual Schools

Gifted and Talented Point of Contact Professional Learning Sessions

Dates: TBD (3 days)
Credit Hours: 2.5-6.5 per session
Format of PD: In-Person
Audience: K-8 School Point of Contact for Gifted and Talented



Session Description: (DRAFT) GT Point of Contacts will create models of differentiated lessons, Primary Talent Development lessons and explore options for the pull out services in grade 3-8.

Facilitator: Mr. Mitchell Hall, Mrs. Candy Maust



National Board Teacher Professional Learning Supports



National Board Certification Professional Learning

Dates/Times	Session Description	Audience	Facilitator	Location
October 15, 2024 4:00-5:30	New Candidates Session on Component 4(Effective and Reflective Practitioner); Book Study on Bobbie Faulkner Comp 4; Personalizing NBC standards	New NBC Candidates	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms. Laura Dahlen	Garrett College
October 21, 2024 3:45-5:00	Current Mentors (Mentor training orientation, training the trainer model being an effective mentor and building an understanding of resources available to the mentor and new NBC candidates	Current NBC Mentors	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms.Laura Dahlen Ms. Anne Ross	Garrett College
October 22, 2024 4:00-5:30	Current Candidates and Current Mentors Explore resources in Component 3 and NBC ATLAS discussion; Book Study on Bobbie Faulkner Comp. 3; Review and discuss the book, <i>What Teachers Should Know and Be Able to Do.</i>	Current NBC Mentors, New NBC Candidates	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms.Laura Dahlen Ms. Anne Ross	Garrett College
November 4, 2024 3:45-5:00	Orientation Meeting with Administrators School leader book to share with administrator: for supporting administrators in how to support candidates in their building. How to complete the NBC process as an administrator.	NBC Administrator Candidates	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms.Laura Dahlen Ms. Anne Ross	Garrett College



National Board Certification Professional Learning

Dates/Times	Session Description	Audience	Facilitator	Location
November 18, 2024 3:45-5:00	New Candidates/Retake Dig Deeper into Component 2 Book Study on Bobbie Faulkner Comp 2 Overview of the three types of writing in the NBC Process Overview of the NBC Rubric Analysis	New NBC Candidates	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms. Laura Dahlen	Garrett College
December 3, 2024 4:00-5:30	Retake Candidates Meeting for 23-24 Candidates to review score report Receive Score/Assign a Mentor	FY24 NBC Cohort (Retakes)	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms. Laura Dahlen	Garrett College
January 15, 2025 3:45-5:00	Retake Candidates: Meeting for 23-24 Candidates who need to retake for 24-25- planning session	FY24 NBC Cohort (Retakes)	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms. Laura Dahlen	Garrett College
January 16, 2025 4:00-5:30	New Current Candidates Dig Deeper for Understanding C1 Book Study on Bobbie Faulkner Comp 1	New NBC Candidates	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms. Laura Dahlen	Garrett College
February 4, 2025 4:00-5:30	New Candidates/Retake Practice Writing NBC Standards and Practice C1 Writing	New NBC Candidates, FY24 NBC Cohort (Retakes)	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms. Laura Dahlen	Garrett College



National Board Certification Professional Learning

Dates/Times	Session Description	Audience	Facilitator	Location
March 4, 2025 4:00-5:30	New Candidates/Retakes: Three types of writing (dig deeper) Rubric Analysis (dig deeper)	New NBC Candidates FY24 NBC Cohort (Retakes)	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms. Laura Dahlen	Garrett College
April 10, 2025 4:00-5:30	New Candidates/Retakes: NBC Technical Assistance Uploading NBC documents Practice C1 Writing (mentor support for candidates)	New NBC Candidates FY24 NBC Cohort (Retakes)	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms. Laura Dahlen	Garrett College
May 1, 2025 4:00-5:30	New Candidates/Retakes: Technical Assistance with NBC Submission	New NBC Candidates FY24 NBC Cohort (Retakes)	Dr. Jane Wildesen Dr. Sandy Coluzzi Ms. Laura Dahlen	Garrett College

Maryland State Department of Education Opportunities





Coming Soon