

Motivation and Inspiration

The professional development day on October 10th gave us a wonderful opportunity to hear amazing keynote speakers and attend sessions that helped us grow as professionals. One of the Keynote Speakers, George Couros, reminds us that our job as educators is to provide new opportunities for our students. We need to increase critical thinking and allow students to be creative. Our craft of teaching and how we engage students in the content fosters innovation and provides students with the skill set necessary to be successful. <https://georgecouros.ca/blog/archives/5715> Click [here](#) to tell us about your reflection from the PD day and to have a chance to win this month's Navigator contest. A name from the entries for each grade-band will be drawn on November 5, 2018.

"If we want innovative students, we need innovative educators. In other words, innovation begins with you. Ultimately, innovation is not about a skill set: it's about a mindset." — George Couros

Congratulations!



Lisa Krol
3rd Grade
Auburn Elem.



Krysten Floyd
Social Studies
Handy Middle School



Lisa Welch
Math/Science
Western HS

Congratulations to the winners of the September Navigator contest! O's Pub and Grill sponsored our September edition and each winner received a \$10.00 gift card to O's! **Thank you O's!** Keep reading every month for your chance to win!



Report Card Committee

—Brian Johnson

Elementary Report Card Committee

I want to thank the 16 teachers representing grades K-5 for their participation on the report card committee. They will review teacher input from Spring 2018, read updated articles related to measuring student growth, and compare sample report cards from other like-districts in the State of Michigan. The committee will conclude with a revised report card that will accurately communicate student learning for parents in our community. The final revised report card will be ready for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Current committee dates:

- Thurs, October 11, 2018, 4:15 to 5:45 (Establishing Criteria for Measuring Learning)
- Thurs, November 1, 2018, 4:15 to 5:45 (Assessing Learning)
- Thurs, November 29, 2018, 4:15 to 5:45 (Reporting Design)
- Thurs, January 10, 2019, 4:15 to 5:45 (Final Design)



Essential Practices

The purpose of Literacy Essentials is to improve children's literacy in the State of Michigan. Essential Practices are a set of research-based supported literacy instructional practices that are intended to be used daily in the classroom. Research by experts indicates that implementation of the Essential practices in the classroom can have a positive effect on literacy achievement. Pre-K-5 is in place and hundreds of teachers across the state have begun implementation and attended professional development sessions. A pilot for 6-12 Essential Practices is currently in place. To explore the Essential Practices in Early and Elementary Literacy as well as stay updated on 6-12 Essential Practices, please visit <https://literacyessentials.org/>.

Click the link to watch a short video from Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles on Literacy Essentials <https://youtu.be/qm68adChQSo>

BCPS Common K-8 STEM Experiences



To reduce the many “Random Acts of STEM” that happen throughout our region, Bay City Public Schools has created a Common STEM Experiences Plan to serve every student in grades K-8 with at least one place-based experience in each classroom. These connections benefit teachers and local organizations alike, cohesively offering presentations to the same grade levels that link content standards with the in-class experiences offered.

K- “Recycling” with Dow Ambassadors
1- “Life Cycles” with Bay Mosquito Control
2- “Respect the Flags” with Consumers Energy
2- “The Earth’s Place in the Universe” with Delta Planetarium
3- “Invasive Species” with Bay City State Park
4- “EmPOWERed Kids” with Consumers Energy
4- “Gypsy Moth Life Cycle” with Bay County Species Control
8- “CO2 in the Atmosphere” with American Chemical Society
6-8 STEM Courses - Various Activities with Delta STEM Explorer

5- “What Floats Your Boat?” with Bay Sail
5- “Recycling” with Bay City Sanitation (City Campuses)
6- “Bald Eagle Lessons” with Bay City State Park
6- “Smithsonian Energy” with Dow Ambassadors
7- “Foundry in a Box” with American Foundry Society
7- “PlastiVan” with SPE Inspiring Plastics Professionals
8- “CO2 in the Atmosphere” with American Chemical Society
6-8 STEM Courses - Various Activities with Delta STEM Explorer



“Everything we do is very hands-on, which gets kids very excited and motivated to learn more about science, and possibly pursue a STEM career.”

- *Brian Smith, Foundry in a Box*

BCPS thanks all of our Common STEM Plan presenters for their time and dedication, reaching at least 450 students per grade level!

Questions? Please contact Connie Kennedy, BCPS STEM Connector



Illuminate Update

We are moving forward in the world of Illuminate. Many teachers took advantage of the Illuminate sessions offered at the BAISD Professional Development day. Many are excited about what the tool can do. Here are some new things that can help you in your Illuminate Journey. **Illuminate Teacher Log in** is on the bcschools.net website. It is under Staff Services with the logo right next to it. **Illuminate Student Portal** is on the bcschools.net website. It is under Student Information labeled Illuminate Student Portal. The Student Portal allows teachers to have students take assessments online. Students log in with their google log in. If you are interested in using Pre-Built Assessments please consider coming to the voluntary session on November 15. For more information, click [here](#) to view the flyer.

Dates to note:

November 5, 2018 Building Level Professional Development (90 Min)

November 6, 2018 District Level Professional Development Day

December 3, 2018 Science Kit Post Test (Earth) Grade K-5

December 6, 2018 Science Kit Pre Test (Physical) Grade K – 5