

Summer and Fall 2011 Course Offerings:

GCSD 1112.4 Using Technology To Enhance Instruction

This inservice is designed for teachers who want to make more effective use of technology to engage students and enhance their instruction. You will learn more about the technology available to teachers at GCS as well as explore free and inexpensive online resources to help bring your teaching to the next level.

Dates: July 5, 12, 19 2011 8 am to 1 pm

GCSD 1112.2 Adventure/Survival Literature

Teachers are constantly searching for literature that can be used to interest their students and these books are specially geared towards male and reluctant readers. Wait list only.

Dates: July 6, 20th, August 3, 2011 9 am to 2 pm

GCSD 1112.9 Whole Brain Teaching

In this course, participants will learn what Whole Brain Teaching is and how to incorporate it in your classroom to promote learning by all, and to motivate and engage your students. All of Whole Brain Teaching's techniques are validated by contemporary brain research.

Dates: July 7, 14 and 21, 2011 8 am to 1 pm

1112.1 Summer Reading 2011

Teachers are constantly searching for literature that can be used to interest their students and these books have received a great deal of press as being high interest. Wait list only.

Dates: July 13, 27th and August 10, 2011 9 am to 2 pm

GCSD 1112.8 Incorporating Project Based Learning into your Curriculum Maps

Project Based Learning (PBL) is an instructional technique which incorporates many 21st Century Skills including critical thinking, problem solving and making global connections. Participants will be provided a copy of PBL Starter Kit- To-the-Point Advice, Tools and Tips for Your First Project. The text will be read and a variety of PBL videos with students will be reviewed and discussed through out the course. Time will then be provided to craft a PBL activity that supports existing curriculum.

Dates: July 28 and 29, 2011 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

GCSD 1112.12 Math In Focus Instructional Strategies Workshop

This one-day interactive workshop develops teacher understanding of Math in Focus, the Singapore Approach. Participants spend time learning how the instructional strategies will add depth to their teaching and develop a greater understanding of mathematics. Educators experience the carefully planned and executed instruction that develops student understanding and intellectual growth. Special attention is paid to how students learn and the role of the teacher in Math in Focus. Time is also spent understanding why the carefully sequenced and paced instruction, covering fewer topics in-depth, will enhance students' math achievement.

Dates: August 15, 2011 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

GCSD1112.13 Math In Focus Instructional Strategies Kindergarten Focus

This half-day interactive workshop develops teacher understanding of Math in Focus, The Singapore Approach. Participants spend time learning how the instructional strategies will add depth to their teaching and develop a greater understanding of

mathematics. Educators experience the carefully planned and executed instruction that develops student understanding and intellectual growth. Special attention is paid to how students learn and the role of the teacher in Math in Focus. Time is also spent understanding why the carefully sequenced and paced instruction, covering fewer topics in-depth, will enhance students' math achievement. This half-day will focus on math instruction for Kindergarten. This course is for K-2 teachers. If additional spots are available, faculty will be notified. Dates: August 16, 2011 8:30-11:30 am

GCSD1112.15 Preparing for the 2011-2012 Inclusion Classroom

This course is offered to all educators, grades K-12, as an opportunity to prepare for the 2011-2012 school year in an Inclusion Classroom. Participants are asked to bring their new class lists, Cleartrack passwords (to view IEP's), and any other student information available (previous report cards, IST reports, etc). Teachers will be given time to use these documents, as well as collaborate with each other, to help prepare themselves and their classrooms for their incoming students. Wait list only. Dates: August 17, 18 and 19, 2011 8 am to 3 pm

GCSD 112.3 2011-2012 IB Implementation Team

The IBO requires an implementation team to provide a forum for IB teachers, administration and Guidance to meet with the IB Coordinator to discuss student concerns, curriculum and assessments. Since we do not have a formalized IB Department currently, these monthly meetings are really our only opportunity to meet as a team. Membership will be invited by IB Coordinator. Monthly meetings beginning September 14, 2011 and ending June 20, 2012.

GCSD 1112.27 K-12 Literacy Research Group

Participants in this research group will review our existing Literacy program K-12 to identify areas of strength and areas requiring support. The K-12 team will research best practices in Literacy to create both short and long-term goals for Literacy within our district. In addition to the work of the K-12 group, participants will also work within building teams to create goals unique to their individual building through a series of break-out sessions. All meetings will be collaborative in nature and will result in greater alignment of Literacy K-12. Given the nature of the identified goals and work to complete those goals, there will be a minimum of 21 hours and potential of 30 hours for participation in this group. The work related to the needs of the individual buildings will guide the final number of hours needed to accomplish our collective goals. Dates: monthly meetings September 2011 to June 2012

GCSD 1112. 6 Response to Intervention Research Group

Participants in this research group will continue to develop a K-12 RTI program for the district. Activities will include researching best practices and current research on the three-tier model, K-12 interventions, progress monitoring, the K-12 IST process and Academic Intervention Services. With a implementation date of July 1, 2012 the RTI plan must be complete and a plan must be designed to provide professional development for our K-12 faculty and staff.

Dates: Monthly meetings September 2011 to June 2012

GCSD 1112.25 K-12 Summer 2011 BLT Workshop

K-12 Building Level Teams will discuss, review and analyze available data in preparation for building goal development. Dates: July 14, 2011 8:30 am to 4 pm.

GCSD 1112.26 Elementary BLT Goal Writing (ext. of K-12 Summer 2011 BLT Workshop)

Elementary BLT members will extend the planning from the K-12 Summer 2011 BLT Workshop and will discuss, review, and analyze available data in preparation for building goal development. Dates: July 15, 2011 8 am to 4:30 pm

GCSD 1112.11 Tech Valley High School Project-Based Learning Workshop
Participants will be invited by Principals Tech Valley High School Faculty will provide a four-day workshop focused on project-based learning (PBL). Creating a project-based unit that integrates content learning standards and college and career readiness skills. Dates: August 8-11, 2011 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

GCSD 1112.20 Google Docs and SchoolTool
Participants will receive an introduction to Google Docs with time in the afternoon to utilize the program. Additional instruction will take place as a review of SchoolTool including attendance, grading, and discipline reporting. Dates: August 15, 2011 8 am to 3 pm

GCSD 1112.21 Access and Accountability for Students for Disabilities
This presentation will include an overview of Special Education Programming, IEP's, 504 plans, RTI and teacher, District, and parent responsibilities. Dates: August 16, 2011 8-10 am

GCSD1112.22 National Board Certification
Participants will receive information regarding the National Board Certification program, timelines and application process. Dates: 10:15 am to 12:15 pm

GCSD 1112.14 Math in Focus Instructional Strategies First and Second Grade Focus
This half-day interactive workshop develops teacher understanding of Math in Focus, The Singapore Approach. Participants spend time learning how the instructional strategies will add depth to their teaching and develop a greater understanding of mathematics. Educators experience the carefully planned and executed instruction that develops student understanding and intellectual growth. Special attention is paid to how students learn and the role of the teacher in Math in Focus. Time is also spent understanding why the carefully sequenced and paced instruction, covering fewer topics in-depth will enhance students' math achievement. This workshop will focus on instruction for grades 1 and 2. This course is for K-2 teachers. If additional spots are available, faculty will be notified. Dates: August 16, 2011 12:30-3:30 pm

GCSD1112.16 Therapeutic Responses: Crisis Intervention and De-escalation for Educators
Participants will be invited by the Principals. This is for people not previously trained This verbal skills workshop is designed to help staff working with students who present diverse social, emotional or behavioral challenges. Day 1 focuses on verbal techniques. Day 2 continues verbal techniques and includes physical intervention techniques. Dates: August 22 and 23, 2011 8:15 am to 3:45 pm

GCSD 1112.23 Math in Focus Curriculum Alignment
Participants will align their curriculum maps within Rubicon Atlas with the Math Common Core Standards and Math in Focus textbook series. Dates: August 24, 2011 8 am to 2 pm

GCSD 1112.17 Re-Certification Training: Therapeutic Responses: Crisis Intervention and De-Escalation for Educators
Participants will be invited by Principals. This is for re-certification purposes.

This training includes physical and verbal interventions. Participants only have to take one of the 3 hour sessions--either am or pm. Dates: August 24, 2011 8:15-11:15 am or August 24, 2011 12:15-3:15 pm

GCSD1112.24 Continuum of Literacy Learning Alignment

Participants will align their curriculum maps within Rubicon Atlas with The Continuum of Literacy Learning and the ELA Common Core State Standards. Dates: August 25, 2011 8 am to 2:30 pm

GCSD1112.18 Confidentiality and Student Records for Special Education and Regular Education Students

Beth Bourassa is a partner at Whiteman Ostermann and Hanna, LLP where she has practiced since 1990. She represents public and private sector management in broad areas of employment law, with a particular focus on the defense of federal court employment discrimination actions. She was also advises public school district clients of the Firm on a wide range of education law issues, including special education. Dates: August 26, 2011 8-10 am

GCSD 1112.19 Right to Know/Bloodborne Pathogen Training

****In order to get credit, participants must stay for both 1 hour sessions**** Michael Needham is one of the owners of Needham Risk Management. He is a Board Certified Safety Professional in comprehensive practice, a National Fire Protection Association Certified Fire Protection Specialist, a Certified Environmental Trainer by the National Environmental Training Association and a Registered Environmental Scientist. Michael is a professional member of the American Society of Safety Engineers, a member of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, and a founding member of the Association of Educational Safety and Health Professionals. This Right-to-Know training is a requirement for employees of public schools as a healthy and safe work environment is important for everyone. Dates: August 26, 2011 10:15 am to 12:15 pm

GCSD 1112.10 Content Area Literacy Study Group

The recently adopted Common Core Content area accentuates the importance of literacy instruction embedded in the content areas. This research group will use the text *Improving Adolescent Literacy: Content Area Strategies at Work* written by Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey to guide the introduction of literacy strategies into the content areas. Some of these practices may be new concepts, while others are reviewed or revised strategies already in use in your classroom. Each month we will study a chapter of the text, test out the literacy strategy, and reflect with our colleagues on the practical uses of each. This course is a 30 hour course with 15 contact hours and 15 reading/planning hours. Dates: August 30, 2011 9 am to 12 pm

GCSD 1112.24 Classroom Instruction That Works

Participants in this study group will review "Classroom Instruction That Works" and "Yardsticks" to simultaneously strengthen their understanding of research based strategies for increasing student achievement and developmentally appropriate practices for elementary and middle school students. Participants will spend time sharing connections between texts, and will be expected to work independently or with peers to begin incorporating research into their instructional plans. Participants in this study group will collaboratively study "Classroom Instruction that Works" and "Yardsticks" to strengthen understanding of developmentally appropriate, research based instruction.

Dates: September 8, 2011 3-4 pm, September 15, 29, October 13, 27, November 6, 17 and December 18, 2011 3-5 pm

GCSD 1112.20 K-12 Math Research Group

Participants in this research group will review our existing Mathematics program K-12 to identify areas of strength and areas requiring support. The K-12 team will research best practices in Math instruction, including Singapore Math techniques, to create both short and long-term goals for Math within our district. In addition to the work of the K-12 group, participants will also work within building teams to create goals unique to their individual building through a series of break-out sessions. All meetings will be collaborative in nature and will result in greater alignment of K-12 Math. Given the nature of the identified goals and work to complete those goals, there will be a minimum of 21 hours and potential of 30 hours for participation in this group. The work related to the needs of the individual buildings will guide the final number of hours needed to accomplish our collective goals. Dates: September 26, October 24, November 21, December 19, 2011, January 30, February 27, March 19, April 23, May 21, June 18, 2012 3-5 pm

GCSD 1112.23 Creative ways to utilize the iPod touch in the class room

Although many of us own or are familiar with iPod touches there are many unique ways to use them in the classroom. This in-service will go over the basics of how to operate them as well as give teacher's an opportunity to learn and share innovative ways to use them in the classroom. Dates: September 26, 2011 3:30-5:30 pm

GCSD 1112.22 Bloom's Digital Taxonomy

Andrew Churches is an educator from New Zealand who has published a course called, Bloom's Digital Taxonomy. <http://edorigami.wikispaces.com/About+Me> This course integrates Bloom's revised taxonomy with a number of cutting edge technologies such as wiki's, blogs, podcasts, collaborative document tools, voice threads, mindmeister, skype and whiteboards. In his course introduction Churches states "Bloom's Revised Taxonomy [2] accounts for many of the traditional classroom practices but does not account for the new technologies and the processes and actions associated with them, nor does it do justice to the "digital children"[8], or as Marc Prensky describes them the "Digital Natives"[7]." I would like to guide a group of faculty through this course and teach them to use any of the technologies they are not familiar with to develop a project they would use in their own classroom that would challenge students to use higher order thinking skills. Another aspect of Churches' work is that he provides excellent rubrics to access projects that have complex and varied tasks. Faculty will be asked to adapt one of the rubrics for their project. Participants will also develop and share their projects as well as the outcomes using a wiki. Dates: September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2011 3-5 pm

