



**AGENDA**

April 7, 2025

Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Chairperson  
John Benbow, Jr.  
Troy Bier  
Christopher Inda  
John Krings  
Elizabeth St.Myers  
Julie Timm

LOCATION: Board of Education, 510 Peach Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI  
Conference Room A/B

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

Persons who wish to address members of the Committee may make a statement pertaining to a specific agenda item. The Committee Chair will establish limits for speakers due to time constraints. Comments made by the public shall be civil in content and tone. Speakers bear the personal risk if comments made are defamatory, slanderous, or otherwise harmful to another individual. Please keep in mind that this is a Committee meeting of the Board open to the public, and not a public hearing.

IV. Actionable Items

- A. Start College Now (SCN) and Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Applications
- B. District Professional Development Plan 2025-2026
- C. District Professional Development Calendar 2025-2026
- D. 7 Mindsets Renewal

V. Updates

- A. Educator Effectiveness Grant
- B. Student Travel
- C. Middle School FBLA Honors
- D. Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School Academic and Behavioral Initiative Update

VI. Consent Agenda Items

VII. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

The Wisconsin open meetings law requires that the Board, or Board Committee, only take action on subject matter that is noticed on their respective agendas. Persons wishing to place items on the agenda should contact the District Office at 715-424-6701, at least seven working days prior to the meeting date for the item to be considered. The item may be referred to the appropriate committee or placed on the Board agenda as determined by the Superintendent and/or Board president.

With advance notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities by providing a sign language interpreter or other auxiliary aids, by calling 715-424-6701.

School Board members may attend the above Committee meeting(s) for information gathering purposes. If a quorum of Board members should appear at any of the Committee meetings, a regular School Board meeting may take place for purposes of gathering information on an item listed on one of the Committee agendas. If such a meeting should occur, the date, time, and location of the Board meeting will be that of the particular Committee as listed on the Committee agenda; however, no deliberation or action will be taken by other Committees or the full Board of Education.



**BACKGROUND**

Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Chairperson  
 John Benbow, Jr.  
 Troy Bier  
 Christopher Inda  
 John Krings  
 Elizabeth St. Myers  
 Julie Timm

April 7, 2025

LOCATION: Board of Education, 510 Peach Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI  
 Conference Room A/B

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Actionable Items

A. Start College Now (SCN) and Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Applications

There are 5 students applying to take 4 courses through the Start College Now program at Mid-State Technical College during the fall of 2025. The chart below sets out the information about this request. Two additional students who applied for courses were denied based on Lincoln High School comparable courses requested and/or a late application.

Number of Students	Grade Level	Name of Course	College Credits
1	12	Intro to Ethics: Theory and Application	3
1	12	Intro to Philosophy	3
1	11	Nursing Assistant	2
3	12	GPS for Student Success	1

There are no students applying through the Early College Credit Program for the fall of 2025.

**The administration recommends approval of the 5 applications to participate in the 4 requested courses at Mid-State Technical College through the Start College Now (SCN) program in the fall of the 2025-26 school year as outlined in the chart.**

B. District Professional Development Plan 2025-2026

Attachment A sets out the proposed Professional Development Plan for the 2025-2026 school year. The plan was shared with the Quality Educator Committee, the Student Engagement Facilitators, the Curriculum Coordinators, the District Council for Instructional Improvement (CII) and the administrative teams. As the various district committees set their 2025-26 goals and action steps, they consider the Board approved 2025-2026 District Strategic Framework as well as the District Professional Development Plan.

**The administration recommends approval of the 2025-2026 Professional Development Plan as presented.**

C. District Professional Development Calendar 2025-2026

Attachment B sets out the proposed schedule for the Professional Development Days Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year. The schedule was developed with input from the Quality Educator Committee, the curriculum coordinators, the Council for Instructional Improvement and the administrative teams. Professional Development Days are a valuable component in maintaining instructional excellence for our students.

**The administration recommends approval of the proposed Professional Development Day Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year.**

D. 7 Mindsets Renewal

Lincoln High School and Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School implemented the 7 Mindsets curriculum starting in the 2023-2024 school year. 7 Mindsets is CASEL aligned Social Emotional Learning Curriculum. We are looking to extend our contract for the 2025-2026 school year at a cost of \$39,000. This cost will include the 7 Mindsets curriculum and their "BASE Education" platform. BASE provides personalized learning pathways for students needing Tier 2 and Tier 3 support. The purchase will be made using funds from the Mental Health Grant and Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services.

Research of The 7 Mindsets shows a direct correlation between talking about growth mindset and higher test scores as well as the development of the sense of belonging to a school community. When originally purchased, the program was presented at the April 19, 2023, CII meeting. The committee unanimously (27 Yes and 0 No) agreed to bring this program forward to the Board of Education for consideration and possible approval. A public viewing of the materials was held on April 17, 2023, from 2:00–5:30 pm. Public comment shared regarding The 7 Mindsets was "Seems to be a good fit for older kids," and "Love this! This is definitely needed to empower kids to make the right choices."

**The administration recommends approval of the proposed renewal of 7 Mindsets for the 2025-2026 school year at a cost of \$39,000 and to be paid**

## **through the Health Grant and Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services.**

Educational Services Committee  
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### V. Updates

#### A. Educator Effectiveness Grant

Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools has been informed that the application for the 2024-25 Educator Effectiveness (EE) Grant has been approved for funding in the amount of \$32,200 for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The grant dollars are used exclusively to pay for the costs associated with the Educator Effectiveness model which supports educators and promotes improved teaching strategies to increase student learning for all students.

#### B. Student Travel

After a successful State Career Development Conference (SCDC), Lincoln High School's DECA has 26 competitors moving on to the International Career Development Conference (ICDC). Additionally, 4 students will attend the THRIVE Leadership Academy conference due to the LHS chapter's membership, community service, and promotional campaigns.

The LHS chapter was also recognized as the 2025 Diamond Dash Champions and the top donator to Muscular Dystrophy Association and Polar Plunge by raising over \$22,000.

Thirty students, one advisor, one administrator and one parent chaperone will be attending the event and are looking forward to a great conference this spring when they travel to Orlando, FL, from April 24 through April 30, 2025. LHS DECA fundraisers, The Wolf Den, and CTE Technical Incentive grant money will be paying for the trip.

#### C. Middle School FBLA Honors

After a successful State Leadership Conference (SLC) which was held in Wisconsin Dells on February 23-24, Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School (WRAMS) FBLA has 6 competitors moving on to the National Leadership Conference (NLC). The chapter also received the honor of the 2nd place Outstanding Chapter in the state and the second largest chapter in the state. Only the top two place getters in each category get to move on to the National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California. Four additional students placed in the top 5 of their respective categories, but will not advance to NLC due to not finishing in the top 2.

Six students, one advisor, and two parents are looking forward to a great conference this summer when they travel to Anaheim, California on June 28 through July 3, 2025. The cost for each student to attend is approximately \$1,005.00.

#### D. WRAMS Academic and Behavioral Initiative Update

Tracy Ginter, Principal of Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School (WRAMS), will lead a presentation around the progress of the academic and behavioral initiatives that have been practiced at WRAMS during the 2024-25 school year.

VI. Consent Agenda Items

Committee members will be asked to decide which items should be placed on the consent agenda for the regular Board of Education meeting.

VII. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

Agenda items are determined by the Committee Chair after consultation with appropriate administration depending upon other agenda items, presentation information, and agenda availability.

Future agenda items/information requests include, but are not limited to:

- K-12 Music Curriculum Map Updates and Materials Acquisition Proposal (May)
- Mid-State Technical College (MSTC) *Business Management Associate in Applied Science Program* at Lincoln High School (May)
- Student Planners (May)
- Orchestra Travel to Spain (May)
- Late Start Mondays Update (June)
- 6-12 English Language Arts Curriculum Map Updates and Material Acquisition Proposal (June)
- Achievement Gap Reduction Report (June)
- Act 20 Promotion Policy (June)
- Pupil Academic Standards (July)

# Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools Professional Development Plan

## Beliefs

**We Believe**...each student is the first consideration of the educational process.

**We Believe**...all students can learn.

**We Believe**...learning is a life-long process.

**We Believe**...in a safe, caring, and respectful learning environment.

**We Believe**...all students should become effective citizens of the community, state, nation, and the world.

**We Believe**...meaningful home, school, and community involvement is vital to continuous improvement.

### Core Principle: Student-Centered Education

- Professional development activities designed with the primary goal of benefiting students
- Educators consider how their learning will translate to improved student outcomes and experiences

#### I. Believe All Students Can Learn

- Adapt teaching methods to meet the unique needs of every student
- Use assessment data to inform instructional decisions and provide targeted support
- Promote growth mindsets and high expectations for all students

**All WRPS  
Staff**

#### II. Commit to Lifelong Learning

- Participate in professional learning communities and peer collaboration
- Understand the use of innovation and adoption of best practices
- Commit to staying current with educational research and trends

#### III. Provide A Safe, Caring, and Respectful Learning Environment

- Develop trauma-informed practices and positive behavior interventions and supports
- Build positive relationships with students and families
- Develop skills in creating a classroom environment where all students feel safe, valued, and respected
- Learn to address bullying and other negative behaviors effectively

#### IV. Develop Effective Citizens

- Understand civic education, global awareness, service learning and community engagement
- Provide opportunities for interdisciplinary learning and problem solving
- Become skilled in connecting curriculum to real-world issues and events

#### V. Involve Home, School, and Community

- Provide effective communication and collaboration with parents/guardians
- Foster positive relationships with families and the community
- Build partnerships with community organizations and resources
- Leverage community resources to support student learning

## Goals of the Professional Development Process at WRPS

**Support** the professional growth of all staff.

**Enhance** teaching practices and student learning outcomes.

**Promote** collaboration and shared leadership.

**Ensure** alignment with district and school improvement plans.

**Provide** a structured, flexible approach to planning and implementing PD.

### Professional Development Day Schedule 2025-2026

Date	Time	Responsibility	
August 11-22, 2025	7.5 hours	Flex Inservice Day in Building (teacher individual choice of day)	
		<i>**Attendance at one FULL day of the District Summer Institute (August 13-14, 2025) could fulfill this obligation</i>	
Monday, August 25, 2025	7:45 - 10:00	District Welcome Back - Performing Arts Center - All WRPS Staff	
	10:00 - 12:00	District Meetings: Special Education Department Meetings, District Tech Cadre Meeting, Math and Reading Interventionists' Meeting, Support Staff ALICE Training, Student Engagement Facilitator's Meeting - @ LHS	
	10:00 - 3:15	Building/Inservice Time - Elementary (For those not attending the above specified meetings) Lunchtime TBD by building	
	12:00 - 3:15	All Secondary Staff - Technology Professional Development - @ LHS <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 1</i>	
Tuesday, August 26, 2025	7:45-12:00	Elementary Core, SpEd and ELL Teachers - Cox Campus Reading Training K-5 - <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 1</i>	
		EC / 4K / Elementary Math Interventionists / Elementary Specialist Teachers - District/Department Led	
	7:45-11:00	6-12 Teachers - Restorative and Neuroscience Informed Practices - Led by CESA 5 - <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 2</i>	
	1:00 - 3:15	All Elementary Staff - Technology Professional Development - @ LHS - <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 1</i>	
	12:00 - 3:15	All Secondary Staff - Building/Inservice	
Wednesday, August 27, 2025	7:45 - 3:15	All Staff - Building/Inservice Time	
Thursday, August 28, 2025	7:45 - 3:15	All Staff - Building/Inservice Time	
Friday, October 3, 2025	7:45 - 12:00	Elementary Core, SpEd and ELL Teachers - Cox Campus Reading Training K-5 - <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 1</i>	
		EC / 4K / Elementary Math Interventionists / Elementary Specialist Teachers - District/Department Led	
	7:45 - 11:00	Secondary 6-12 Department Meetings led by Curriculum Coordinators (****ELA and Math - See Below)	
		<b>*** 6-12 Math and Math Interventionists - Led by CESA 5 – Math Audit Follow-up</b> <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 2</i>	
			<b>*** 6-12 ELA and Reading Interventionists - Led by CESA 5 – ELA Audit Follow-up</b> <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 2</i>
	12:00-3:15 Sec	1:00 - 3:15 Ele	Building Led Professional Development
	1:00 - 3:15	Curriculum Coordinators/Building Administrators/SEFs - CESA 5 / Universal Design for Learning <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 2</i>	
Wednesday, November 26, 2025	7:45 - 11:00	Elementary Core, SpEd and ELL Teachers - Cox Campus Reading Training K-5 - <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 1</i>	
		EC / 4K / Elementary Math Interventionists / Elementary Specialist Teachers - District/Department Led	
	Building Led Professional Development 6-12		
Off-Campus	3.25 hours	K-12 Recordkeeping - Off Campus Option w/logging of 3.25 hours	
Monday, January 19, 2026	7:45 - 10:00	Dr. Brian Dinkins - Districtwide - <i>Strategic Framework Commitments 1,2,3</i>	
	10:15-11:30	<b>**Districtwide - Wrapping Restorative and Neuroscience Informed Practices -</b> <i>Strategic Framework Commitments 1,2,3</i>	
	12:30 - 3:15	<b>**Building Led - Reflections and Building Professional Development -</b> <i>Strategic Framework Commitments 1,2,3</i>	
Friday, March 6, 2026 Off-Campus	7:45 - 11:00	Elementary Core, SpEd and ELL Teachers - Cox Campus Reading Training K-5 - <i>Strategic Framework Commitment 1</i>	
		EC / 4K / Elementary Math Interventionists / Elementary Specialist Teachers - District/Department Led	
		Building Led 6-12	
	3.25 hours	K-12 Recordkeeping - Off Campus Option w/logging of 3.25 hours	
Thursday, June 4, 2026	Afternoon	K-12 Recordkeeping	
June 5, 2026	Full Day	Building Wrap Up / Check Out	

**\*\*January 19, 2026, will include Break Out Sessions TBD after the morning Keynote. More information will come.**

**\*\* Staff will earn 7.5 hours of Professional Development by completing the following: The required WRPS District Beginning of Year Inservice Virtual Trainings, the year long required IT Security Training videos throughout the year, along with the employee's choice of ONE District Canvas Course which equates to 2.0 hours of PD for Secondary Teachers and all Elementary staff not involved in the required Cox Campus Reading training. The courses will be created by District leadership and are related to District PD goals. Elementary Classroom Teachers will complete 2.0 hours of Cox Campus Reading Training virtually. This PD can be completed any time between July 15th and September 30, 2025, to fulfill this contracted Professional Development Day. Links, along with directions, will be provided by mid July 2025.**

### **Professional Development Day Understandings:**

- All teachers will follow the above schedule on Professional Development Days.
- Professional staff will not be released for practices or rehearsals on professional days until 3:15.

### **Elementary Parent Involvement Evenings:**

All elementary staff must attend for two hours for the spring parent involvement evening. Compensatory time for this will be provided through one of the following options:

1. June 4, 2026: Recordkeeping in the Afternoon
2. June 5, 2026, Building Wrap-Up - Check Out

### **The purpose of professional days is to achieve the following:**

- Meet the district and building-level professional development goals as set out in the WRPS Professional Development Plan.
- Provide collaboration time for teachers.
- Provide professional development for teachers at the building and District levels.
- Provide a cost-effective means of professional development.
- Provide professional development time without taking teachers out of the classroom.

### **Definitions:**

**Building PD Initiatives** – Building-based activities are determined by each building’s leadership team and explained in the building’s professional development plan.

**Teacher Collaboration** – Two or more teachers working together to evaluate student performance (analyze assessments), plan lessons and units, or enhance teaching strategies. Special and individual projects may be approved at the discretion of the building principal. Administrators or teachers may plan a meeting, but teachers **may choose** whether or not to attend.

**District/Grade Level Meetings** – Activities determined by the Curriculum Department, teacher leaders, CII Chairs, and administration.

**Professional Learning Community (PLCs):** An ongoing process in which educators work collaboratively in recurring cycles of collective inquiry and action research to achieve better results for the students they serve. The three ideas that drive the PLC process include a focus on learning, collaborative culture, and collective responsibility, and a results orientation. PLCs are committed to identifying Essential Learning Outcomes (ELOs), administering common assessments to measure student progress toward those ELOs, and collaborating and modifying instruction based on data collected to improve outcomes on common assessments.

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***Prepare Every Educator***