

HOPATCONG BOROUGH SCHOOLS
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Hopatcong, NJ - Hopatcong Heightens Student Engagement through the Arts!

Cynthia Randina, Hopatcong Superintendent of Schools, Announces -

The district arts teachers and members of each school's Creative Leadership Team participated in an Arts Infusion In-Service on April 16, 2015 with district administrators and invited guests, Ms. Adele Mancula, district mentor for infusing the arts and Associate Director of Special Projects for FEA (Foundation for Educational Administration) and Dr. Deboarh Ward, evaluator for FEA and the Dodge Foundation. The Arts Infusion In-Service was part of the district's mission on infusing the arts established during the "Scholars as Leaders, Arts Leadership Institute" at Princeton University, last July.

The purpose of the Arts Infusion In-Service was to discuss the district's goal of using the arts as a vehicle to enhance student engagement in classrooms. Participants worked on a plan that will be delivered to each building's faculty on the topic of Arts Infusion and Student Engagement during the June in-service. During the April in-service, teachers met with administrators and invited guests in order to discuss each building's Arts Infusion Plan and the successes and challenges of infusing the arts. During the session, Mrs. Randina discussed the role of the arts in heightening student engagement, Dr. Kaufhold discussed the alignment of the Common Core Standards and the Arts, Dr. Mullane discussed the district's Creative Leadership Teams and Dr. Edgerton discussed the goal and task for the June in-service.

Ms. Macula offered suggestions and stated that, "Hopatcong is a model for infusing the arts for the Ford Foundation Gant." Ms. Macula gave accolades to the district and praised the Middle School's arts initiative. Ms. Macula also praised the districts in-service, held last August, for the Creative Leadership Team members on the topic of Arts Infusion. Ms. Macula suggested that the district request that a second team of teachers attend the "Scholars as Leaders, Arts Leadership Institute" at Princeton University this summer. Dr. Ward explained that she was taking notes as to what is being done in Hopatcong and stated that what is taking place is exactly what they are looking for in participating districts. Both guests requested to visit during the June in-service.

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If you would like more information on this topic, or to schedule an interview with Cynthia Randina, Superintendent of Schools, please call JoAnne Murray at 973-398-8801 or email at jmmurray@hopatcongschools.org.