

Support for Beginning Teachers

Through the Beginning Teacher Program, teachers new to the profession in Joint School District #2 have a greater opportunity to successfully develop interpersonal and technical skills that promote high quality instruction for the academic, social/emotional, and physical needs of diverse learners. Master teachers selected as **Beginning Teacher Advisors** are committed to providing the necessary assistance and support that cultivates professional growth and reflection.

Five Beginning Teacher Advisors personally coach and assist beginning teachers to increase their expertise in the six teaching domains. A teaching portfolio allows a teacher to think about their instruction and create connections to teaching domains that impact the classroom. It uses rubrics to guide teachers to question what they do and the effectiveness of how they teach. Portfolios increase teacher awareness of how the tools they use impact teaching.

Teachers are encouraged to take the **Beginning Teacher Seminar** which will provide a purposeful, orderly, and ongoing process for developing the portfolios. Meeting every other week this seminar is offered for 1 graduate credit paid for by the district. During the seminar advisors will provide outlines, check off lists, set deadlines, samples and time for completion. The task will not be an additional expectation as much as a process of growth. Through pacing and the establishment of realistic goals, the portfolio is a valuable tool to assist and improve instruction. A portfolio presents a picture of the realities of professional growth, personal accomplishments, and future goals.

Additionally, the district has two other sources for curriculum support for new teachers. Five master teachers known as **academic coaches** are available in the areas of K-3 reading, elementary math, elementary language arts, secondary math, and secondary language arts. These coaches can assist in understanding the intricacies of the curriculum and how to plan to increase student learning. Like the academic coaches, **lead teachers** are experienced teachers which new teachers may wish to contact to provide curriculum support. Elementary music, elementary physical education/health, secondary music, secondary physical education/health and foreign language all have lead teachers available.

Instructional Support Specialists - Curriculum Writing & Materials Adoptions

Language Arts - JoAnn Livermore

Math - Cindy Sisson

Social Studies - Joe Kelly

Science - Suanne McCullough

Electives - Chris Lawrence

Library - Pam Juel

Beginning Teacher Advisors – Helping Teachers in their First Year of the Profession

Judy Bennion - Elementary
Kim Everman - Elementary
Jackie Shellworth - Secondary
Debbie Gourley - Secondary
Rina Hallock - Special Education

Educational Technology Specialists – Use of Technology for Curriculum Instruction

Shannon Hull - Elementary
Ken Smith - Elementary
Tami Bowlden - Elementary & Middle School
Tammy Neptune - Secondary
Tobey Jossis - Secondary

Academic Coaches – Curriculum and Instruction for Academic Success in Core Areas

Early Childhood - Missy Nida
Primary Reading- Shawna Exline
Language Arts
 Elementary Grades 3-5 - Shannon Loree
 Secondary - Laura Gilchrist
Math
 Elementary - Casey Schlien
 Secondary - Michelle Carney

Lead Teachers – Curriculum and Instruction for Academic Success in Electives

Challenge - Roxann Jensen
Foreign Language - Dale Garrard
Health & P.E.
 Elementary - Diane Sanders
 Secondary - Wendy Spiers
Music
 Elementary - Kelley Smith
 Secondary - Phil Hartman