

Mississippi Whole Schools Growth Planning Guide

Communication

Goal 1	Effectively communicate the work and purpose of Mississippi Whole Schools.
1a	Create permanent and/or long term art displays and exhibits on the school grounds (indoors and outdoors) so it is visible and evident that the arts are valued and celebrated.
1b	Create hallways displays throughout the school as clear evidence of student learning through arts integration (The documentation shows student creations and how students engaged in the creative process.).
1c	Collaborate with school stakeholders to effectively communicate the value of the arts and arts integration.
1d	Host public events annually for parents, families, and community members to engage and educate on HOW the arts are being integrated throughout the curriculum and WHY the arts are important.
1e	Include specific information about arts integration within the school's printed and digital information materials (newsletters, brochures, etc.).
1f	Ensure the school website and social media reflect the school's commitment to arts integration and participation in the MWS program.
1g	Include arts and arts integration in the school's vision and mission statements.
1h	Include school stakeholders at MWS institutes and arts integration training events (community leaders, superintendents, parents, funders, etc.).
1i	Participate in community events to communicate the work of arts integration on the school's campus.
1j	Ensure all staff can clearly articulate the impact of arts integration for student achievement and success.

Professional Learning

Goal 2	Provide high quality professional learning opportunities to increase skills and build knowledge.
2a	Host school-wide professional learning workshops that focus on arts integration (not arts enhancement) each school year. This training should include demonstration lessons in the classroom with follow-up support for implementation.
2b	Host school-wide professional learning opportunities that focus on best teaching practices to connect the ongoing work in arts integration with the school's improvement plan.
2c	Establish ongoing rotation of attendance for staff members and administrators to ensure that all participate at MWS Summer and Winter trainings.
2d	Allocate time at least once a month during staff meetings for peer-led demonstration workshops about arts integrated teaching and learning, as well as the connections to other educational topics (21st Century Skills, differentiation, UDL, multiple intelligences, educating the whole child, etc.).
2e	Participate in curriculum-based authentic arts experiences provided by outside sources (ex. field trips, assemblies, residencies, etc.).
2f	Stay knowledgeable in research and readings about the impact of arts education and arts integrated classrooms.
2g	Build and use arts vocabulary, skills, and knowledge in an authentic and accurate way.
2h	Collect data that shows student academic needs and create arts integration strategies to address those needs.
2i	Collect data that shows staff development needs and develop a plan to address those needs.
2j	Teachers understand and effectively implement the current district and state standards.
2k	Establish rotational schedule for peer classroom observations to support reflective practice in arts integration strategies.
2l	Train and equip new staff members with the necessary tools for successful implementation of arts integration.
2m	Effectively manage professional learning time to address instructional priorities and implement professional learning strategies.
2n	Integrate the arts as an approach to teaching and assessing on a daily basis.

Community Relationships

Goal 3	Enhance and sustain relationships and collaborations for Mississippi Whole Schools and its communities.
3a	Hire certified arts specialists to teach the literacy of their art form and collaborate with classroom teachers to plan arts integrated lessons/units and serve as a resource and leader of their art form.
3b	Hire an Arts Integration Resource Teacher/Coach to assist in teacher professional learning, classroom implementation, and program planning.
3c	Include and engage in ongoing reflective practice for staff and students.
3d	Ongoing communication with school stakeholders to establish community support for sustainability.
3e	Participate in a variety of community arts-based events (museums, concerts, plays, musicals, ballets, etc.).
3f	Consistently involve social collaborative experiences in the classroom environment in which students are engaged in the creative process.
3g	Ongoing collaboration and networking with other MWS schools.
3h	Establishes an effective arts leadership team that meets monthly to discuss progress, identify needs, plan professional learning and community events.

Operations

Goal 4	Refine school's operations to ensure effective financial and infrastructural support of the work over time.
4a	Ongoing communication with the school district is occurring to establish district support and involvement.
4b	Align and manage school resources to support the ongoing growth and implementation of the program (ex. PTO, PTA, school fundraisers, etc.).
4c	Actively seeks external resources (ex. foundations, community partners, etc.) that align to strategic priorities.
4d	Develop and implement a comprehensive curriculum plan which supports rigorous and collaborative arts integration planning.
4e	Policy and procedure handbooks include the importance of the arts and requirements for the implementation of arts integration.
4f	Administration provides and facilitates weekly common planning time for arts and curriculum connections.
4g	Administration expects teachers to integrate the arts daily as an approach to teaching, not as an isolated activity.
4h	Include arts and arts integration in the school's annual improvement/academic plan.
4i	Administration provides arts and arts integration training as an ongoing part of the school's professional development plan.
4j	Administration implements a coaching and/or partnership program for all teachers in arts integration.