



# TIPS FOR ENGAGING ART TEACHERS IN SCHOOL CULTURE

## **+ Leading Professional Development**

- Art can be intimidating for people not in the arts. Enlist your arts educators to lead an art activity for a community building activity at the beginning of the year. This will not only serve as a way to energize the staff, but will also give teachers a jumpstart on arts integration.
- Other topics for arts teacher-led professional development: Arts integration/Project based learning; Encouraging creative thinking/Innovation in the classroom; Tips & tricks for discussing and making art with students; Supporting student creativity/positive responses to student art/performances; Creative uses of Technology

## **+ Bring arts teachers into PLC collaborative meetings**

- Many arts teachers work with/know ALL of the students in the school and/or have insight into students behavior outside of general classroom.
- Art teachers can have a different perspective of at-risk students, so could positively contribute to behavior support meetings and meetings with school counselors.
- Arts teachers can assist with differentiated learning strategies to improve visual/tactile/auditory learner's understanding of difficult content.

## **+ Arts Educators are Image/Music/Arts History Experts**

- Arts Teachers can provide specific artists or works of art that connect with specific subjects other teachers may be introducing to their students.

## **+ Boost School Pride/Community**

- Art teachers can facilitate group projects to beautify school hallways and the surrounding area, giving students increased connection to and pride in their school.

## **+ Encourage arts educators to regularly share out success stories/new ideas/upcoming events during staff meetings.**

## **+ Encourage ALL teachers to visit classrooms outside of their content areas to gain new perspectives.**

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, LEADERSHIP, and GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES for ARTS EDUCATORS



## ✚ Topics for Professional Development

- Interdisciplinary Collaboration/Teamwork
- Assessment in the Arts
- Behavior Management
- Technology Integration/Use of Technology
- The Fine & Performing Arts Standards
- Integrating the arts into general elementary and secondary school curriculum
- Writing Essential Questions
- Book Study/Reviewing New Research in Arts Education

## ✚ Professional Development through Arts Organizations

- If they are not already connected, encourage your arts specialists to connect with their state arts organizations and participate in their annual professional development conferences and workshops (Wyoming Secondary Art Educators Association, Wyoming Art Education Association, Wyoming Music Educators Association, Wyoming Educators of Secondary Theatre, Wyoming Jazz Educators)

## ✚ District Arts Educator PLC Meetings

- Encourage arts educators in your building to reach out to the other arts educators in your district to hold regularly scheduled collaborative meetings to share effective and new ideas, strategies, and techniques specific to their arts area.

## ✚ Professional Development led by local artists, arts organizations, or museums.

- Involving local arts organizations and community artists in professional development not only helps to establish important community/school relationships, but also can provide valuable resources to inform educators of new and exciting field trip and educational opportunities.