



@Bolling Building

EVENT SUMMARY

Session Overview

On **October 2, 2023** the Telescope Network hosted a Planning Cohort at the Bolling Building on the topic of planning curriculum that meets SLIFE students' needs. Mayra DaRocha (SLIFE Spanish Native literacy teacher @Frederick Middle School), Nairobi Mateo (SLIFE Math teacher @BINcA), and Ariana Sicaire-McCarthy (SLIFE ESL teacher @BINcA) were the facilitators at this event. We had **22** participants from **8** different BPS schools/departments join this session.



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What is a Planning Cohort?

In a Planning Cohort, educators collaborate with colleagues across BPS around a specific curriculum or content area to develop habits of effective and efficient planning; discuss with a planning coach and/or peers specific challenges around implementation and get support as they plan for changes to their practice.

Credits
12 PD hr
Or 1 ALC

Why this topic?

Throughout the school year, we've asked BPS educators about their professional development needs. When asked to identify their current learning needs, a major theme was around SLIFE curriculum support. One educator wrote: "[I want] more opportunities to collaborate with other SLIFE teachers." A new SLIFE math educator wrote, "There is no curriculum or textbook or guide to follow AT ALL. I am creating all of my own materials, ideas, concepts, planning, curriculum, etc."

Materials

- [Flyer](#)
- [Slide Deck](#) from All Sessions
- [Flyer](#) / [RSVP](#)

Participant Artifact Exemplars

- [Math Unit Plan \(Amanda Beasley\)](#)
- [Native Literacy Unit Plan \(Andrés Fernandez-Palacios Delgado\)](#)
- [ESL Unit Plan \(Jennifer Hayes\)](#)

Participant Feedback

After the session, **100%** of participants said that they would recommend this session to a colleague. Additional comments from participants:

- *I find these dedicated planning times with the ability to ask questions to other SLIFE teachers and support extremely helpful!*
- *Because I am new to SLIFE, there are questions and issues that arise outside the unit planning focus. It is helpful in many ways to know there are others facing the same issues, and to receive generous advice from those more experienced.*
- *Everything was very well organized and supported learning. Thank you.*



Participant Takeaways

We asked participants to comment on what they were proud of after participating in the virtual planning sessions.

- *I learned some helpful strategies for incorporating basic concepts within my curriculum that I will be able to apply going forward.*
- *I know what “backwards planning” is now and it’s actually really helpful! I’ll continue to use it.*
- *Differentiation was not something I was good at and I think I got better because of this Planning Cohort.*

Next Steps

- This Planning Cohort included six follow-up sessions on Zoom on 10/10, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13
- [Telescope Events Calendar](#) for future PD sessions and social events.

Additional Resources

Event facilitators: Ariana Sicairos-McCarthy (facilitating teacher), Mayra DaRocha (facilitating teacher), Nairobi Mateo (facilitating teacher), Kristen Cacciatore (Telescope Networker) and Garcie Champagne (Telescope Networker)

Visit bostonpublicschools.org/telescope for more information. Email us at telescope@bostonpublicschools.org.

