

Purpose Corner Video Transcript 2/20/23

Welcome to “Purpose Corner” for the week of February 20th, 2023. Here is my little “State of the State” address for West. West High School was recently named an AVID “Schoolwide Site of Distinction” of which I shared the news in the form of a statement through my blog previously. If you have come to see me present on what our mission and vision are for West High School, I always explain how our AVID program works and the value it has to support us in looking to accelerate students learning experiences to prepare them for college and/or careers. I want to mention once again that this is the highest rating that a school can achieve within the AVID certification continuum. AVID Schoolwide Sites of Distinction are recognized for implementing AVID with high levels of fidelity and demonstrating that AVID positively impacts students across the entire campus, not just within the AVID elective class.

On Thursday, February 9th West High School hosted several area school districts who came out to see our Integrated math courses in action. I understand that Integrated math is new and different for our students and parents may have mixed feelings about it, however, this math approach is something that many school districts are moving to implement because of the applicable approach to learning math through real world application and the rigorous expectations that exist for students through this new curriculum. Those that saw it in action were blown away by the quality of math instruction that is happening, and that is a West community celebration!

Finally, as a staff we have been diving deeper into the Gradual Release of Responsibility planning framework that focuses on four phases of instruction which are focused instruction, guided instruction, collaborative practice and independent practice. We continue to see our staff implementing these phases well for the benefit of our students. We are focusing on collaborative practice for the next several weeks and I am already seeing high quality implementation of these practices in our classrooms. Teachers are working hard and kids are working hard and doing great things here at West! Go Wolverines... WHOOP!!