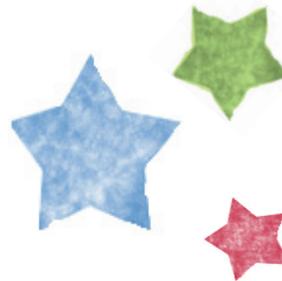




Manchester
Public
Schools



What's
Today's
News?

STEM to STEAM: Dr. Oliver addresses Board of Ed...

FULL
STEM
AHEAD

During 2013-14, the Manchester Public Schools renewed its focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM).

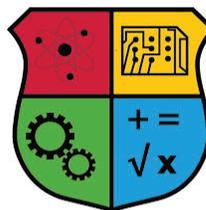
Dr. Santosha Oliver, Director of Teaching and Learning for STEM was hired in the fall of 2013. Many believe that creativity and innovation are tightly coupled with Science, Technology, Engineering and Math while Art and Design are poised to transform our world in the 21st century (<http://stemtoteam.org/>). As a result, we have added the



arts to our existing STEM focusing, going from STEM, to STEAM, as a part of our emphasis on creativity. Dr. Oliver addressed the Manchester Board of Education on Monday September 22. She discussed the Implementation of Science, Technology Education, Art and Mathematics curricula and highlighted district-wide resources

including FASTT Math and Fraction Nation. Dr. Oliver also explained the role of the Instructional Coaches and Library / Media Specialists to support this work. The emphasis of the new K – 12 mathematics curriculum is to build new knowledge from prior knowledge, provide opportunities for reflective thought, encourage multiple approaches to problem solving, encourage productive struggle, and treat errors as opportunities for growth. One key strategy that supports this work are number talks which are being implemented in classrooms across the district as part of mathematics instruction.

Dr. Oliver also shared information regarding district numeracy meetings, the UConn Bridges program, the MPS Math Vertical Team, MPS Science Vertical Team, Connecticut Science Center Workshops, and the move to Professional Learning Communities. Regular updated will be provided to the Board of Education and community throughout the year.



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