

# Instructional and Professional Development

September 2020

Respectfully Submitted by Shanalyn Eckenrod

## **New Teacher Induction Program:**

This year's New Teacher Induction week was done virtually and the sessions were recorded for future use. The induction program, itself, will be handled virtually this year. A Google Classroom is being created that will house all information, previously recorded sessions, and new interactive sessions. Any teacher that is currently in the induction will be sent an invite to the Google Classroom and will be able to access the needed materials. The platform for the previously recorded sessions and new sessions will be Edpuzzle.

## **Clearances:**

Reading School District requires updated clearances upon hire and then every five years after that. This change began in 2015. It is your responsibility to maintain your clearances and keep them up to date (within five years).

The only clearance that has an extension because of Covid-19 is the FBI Fingerprinting Clearance. Signed into law on May 8, 2020, Act 18 of 2020 (Act 18) provides additional time for school employees to renew their FBI fingerprint-based background checks due to the pandemic. Under Act 18, employees of public schools have until December 31, 2020 to renew their FBI fingerprint-based background checks at an approved IdentoGO location.

If you have questions regarding this, you can contact Linda Pelker [pelkerLL@readingsd.org](mailto:pelkerLL@readingsd.org). It is suggested you scan your clearances and email them. Please refer to the RSD Handbook for more information.

## **Frontline Professional Growth:**

Sign up for professional development sessions at least one day early on Frontline. If you are not signed up online, you will not receive the credits. Additionally, all courses have the Learning Experience Evaluation completed and must be marked completed and have the in order to receive credit. Any issues with Frontline should be directed to Sheryl Clemens.

## **Act 48:**

It is your responsibility to make sure that your Act 48 hours are up to date. You should periodically check your Act 48 hours using the following website:

<https://www.perms.ed.state.pa.us/screens/wfpublicaccess.aspx>

## **Level 2 Certification:**

Employees are responsible for applying for their Level 2 certification before 6 years of service. Level 2s take a long time to process, so make sure you apply early! Visit the REA website for

links to information about Level 2 certification. I can also assist you with any questions you may have.

**In-Service and Act 80 Days:**

Please let me know if you have any suggestions for professional development topics for future in-service days or if you have any instructional concerns.

Feel free to contact me at [seckenrod@comcast.net](mailto:seckenrod@comcast.net) with any questions!