

Feinstein continuing with NextGen personalized learning initiative

Examination of proficiency-based learning performed

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COVENTRY — Phase three for the NextGen personalized learning at Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School has begun with a school coach, according to Principal Dr. Arthur Lisi.

He said earlier this week, the school's coach, Don Weafer, spend all day with 16 teachers from the ELA and math departments to examine their proficiency-based system and to look at how reporting standards goes.

"We're looking more closely at proficiency and teasing out for the content from critical area so students can demonstrate what they've learned," he said.

In 2009, the New England Secondary School Consortium, which includes Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont and New Hampshire, created a League of Innov-

ative Schools.

This league was formed as a grassroots network of middle schools and high schools committed to educational innovation and ongoing improvement.

As part of the League of Innovative Schools, the middle school was one of 20 selected (the only middle school in the state to be selected) in March and received a \$25,000 grant by the New England Secondary School Consortium and the Great Schools Partnership to participate in a new initiative that will help them develop personalized learning experiences that will address the distinct learning needs, interests and aspirations of individual students.

"Feinstein Middle School has crafted a vision of personalized learning that supports all students reaching proficiency," said Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School

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Feinstein continues initiative

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Principal Dr. Arthur Lisi. "We are thrilled to be selected as part of the League of Innovative School's Personalize Learning Initiative."

The Great Schools Partnership is providing each school with a team of school improvement specialists who will help school leaders and teachers implement their plans.

The new initiative not only recognizes the longstanding commitment each school has made, but it will build on and accelerate their progress as the schools continue to strengthen their academic programs, share professional expertise and create more inventive, motivating and effective learning opportunities for students.

He explained how the initiative also has ad-

ministration looking at how they craft a report card that aligns with the Common Core, the Next Generation Science Standards and the Social Studies Standard.

"It needs a face lift," he said.

Another goal will be for administrators, teachers and staff to work together using systems that promote efficient collaboration.

This will lead to the next goal of allowing students to pursue a variety of pathways to graduation based on personal interests, goals and needs.

"Student achievement data will be analyzed in order to ensure that all students receive both interventions and opportunities to expand learning," he said.