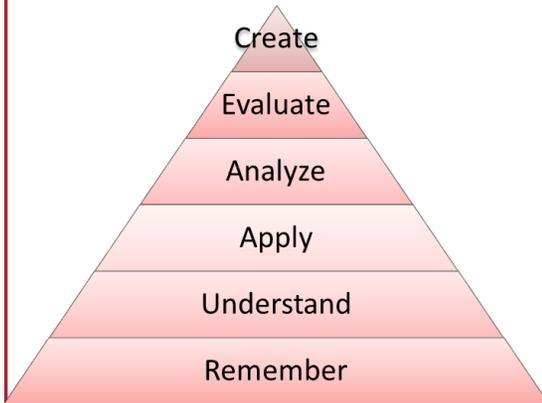


Bloom's Taxonomy Of Thinking Skills



The AALI Coaches work with elementary school teachers in the Fitchburg Public School System. Together they create universal learning plans that integrate higher order thinking skills into all subject areas.

This is the kind of innovation and inspiration that helps us deliver higher expectations to all students, boost family and staff morale and continue to inspire us.

AALI Coaches

School	Coach and Email
Crocker Elementary	Kim Bellio belliok@fitchburg.k12.ma.us
South Street Elementary	Elizabeth Maki makie@fitchburg.k12.ma.us
McKay Campus School	Jan Thibodeau thibodeaujan@fitchburg.k12.ma.us
Reingold Elementary	Matthew Puma pumam@fitchburg.k12.ma.us

Fitchburg Public Schools

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Andre Ravenelle, Superintendent
Paula Giaquinto, Assistant Superintendent



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FITCHBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS
"Prepared to Succeed"

Advanced Academic Learning Initiative

AALI Up!

Advanced Academic
Learning Initiative

FITCHBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Overview of the Advanced Academic Learning Initiative

The guiding principles of the Advanced Academic Learning Initiative derive from a core focus on providing challenging instruction for all students in the Fitchburg Public Schools.



“All students should be challenged at whatever level of learning they are at in a given time and a given grade.”

This guiding focus informs the AALI Mission Statement:

The AALI mission is to develop the highest academic potential of all students in the Fitchburg Public Schools. The AALI Coaches provide a continuum of opportunities in which students engage in complex subject matter, preparing them for more challenging and rigorous classes as they advance in grade level.

Specifically, the AALI Coaches act to:

1. model lessons for all students to teach higher level thinking skills
2. support differentiated instruction in the classroom
3. lead efforts to find and nurture AALI students
4. provide direct services to students at advanced academic levels in specific content areas

AALI UP!

Tiers of Instruction

Students will benefit from AALI coaching and direct instruction in a continuum/tiered approach with three levels.

Tier I

Tier I support promotes **differentiated instruction** to all students in every classroom, including:

- challenging content, assignments, and resources
- flexible instructional groupings in one or more areas of academic strength
- infusion of higher order thinking skills into the curriculum
- collaboration, planning and sharing ideas with classroom teachers and specialists

Tier II

Tier II supports **small group instruction in the classroom** using an array of educational tools and methods including:

- Digital Tools for multimedia authoring, presentations, communications and learning
- Lessons for higher order thinking skills and creative expression (poetry slams)
- Learning Centers and Rotation Stations that promote peer learning methods such as Literature Circles



Tier III

Tier III services provide **individual and small group instruction** for students working at advanced academic levels in particular subjects.

These activities include:

- Interdisciplinary creative projects
- Web-based explorations
- Curriculum-based field trips

Collaboration and Community

The AALI Coaches work closely with the Language Arts and Mathematics Coaches in the Fitchburg Elementary Schools. All coaches enhance the quality of classroom instruction by integrating best practices into curriculum development and instructional methods. The coaching role is particularly important now as Massachusetts incorporates the Common Core Standards emphasizing higher order thinking skills and creative thinking in all subject areas.

The AALI Coaches engage the larger community of Fitchburg through projects involving the Art Museum, Historical Society and professional mentors for enriching student learning.

