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To: Benjamin 25 Board of Education
Dr. Patrick McGill, Superintendent
From: Dr. Fitzgerald
Date: January 12th, 2025
Topic: Learning and Teaching Report

BACKGROUND

I provide the Board of Education, Superintendent, and the community with a report at each regular Board of Education meeting, highlighting District Learning and Teaching activities and information.

SUMMARY

Professional Development

The district will be participating in the County Wide Institute Day for Friday February 27th. Many teachers will be going out to a professional conference or workshop connected to a content area or teaching strategy. Dr. Filas is a great help during this process as he facilitates the procedures we have in place for teachers to register and in some cases pay for conferences they wish to attend on this day. Staff can also choose to stay in-house and put together an agenda for what they would like to work on tied to curriculum or instruction and have it approved by their principal. Staff have a deadline to get these agendas in so I can submit an approval with the DuPage Regional Office of Education and can distribute Professional Development Credit Hours for work they do on this day.

Assessment

Nicole Johnson, one of our EL teachers, is working hard to organize and begin our ACCESS Testing for our EL students. This is an annual English language proficiency assessment EL students take to measure their skills in listening, reading, speaking, and writing to support their academic development and determine language support needs. ACCESS Testing starts this week and will continue for 5 weeks total.

Illinois Assessment of Readiness dates have been set for the two weeks prior to Spring Break, starting on the week of March 16th and continuing the week of March 23rd. The Illinois Science Assessment will begin soon after returning from Spring Break.

CogAT testing is being organized for 2nd and 5th grade. Testing for 2nd grade will be the week of March 12th with 5th grade testing in April.

Dr. McGill, Mrs. Smith and I have continued our Learning Walks visiting Evergreen Special Education classrooms and Art, Music and STEM classes at Benjamin.

High School Articulation

For the following three Tuesdays we have staff that will be attending articulation meetings at West Chicago Community High School. ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, Tech and PE will all be participating. This will include a classroom observation and meeting with the department chairs.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

None at this time.