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To: Benjamin 25 Board of Education
Dr. Patrick McGill, Superintendent
From: Dr. Fitzgerald
Date: September 15, 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

Curriculum

I have been working with teachers to ensure online access to curricular programs and securing a few additional or missing physical resources for some of our new teachers as well as special education staff.

I am investigating the possibility of securing Teacher Curriculum Institute (TCI) as a social studies solution for our K-4 teachers. 5th-8th grade teachers have used these electronic resources with great success. This would provide K-4 teachers with a standards aligned social studies resource that would require minimum training due to ready-to-teach slideshows with every lesson that promote active learning and have rich primary sources.

Professional Development

Working with Dr. McGill and Mrs. Smith I am establishing a Learning Walk schedule for the 2025-2026 school year. This will give Dr. McGill and the admin team a chance to get into every classroom in the district throughout the year. The purpose of the Learning Walks will vary but these collaborative walks will be short, non-evaluative classroom visits designed to gather data on instructional practices, student engagement, identify effective practices, inform professional development and support for teachers.

Mentoring:

I will be meeting with the new teachers on September 24th at their first mentee meeting of the year. Our objectives will be reviewing the evaluation process in Benjamin SD 25 along with setting student growth goals. We will also review the chapter on Building Community from the book Onward by Elena Aguilar.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

None at this time.