

April Board Report, 2019

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This past month a report was requested from the Minnesota Department of Education to gather data on how schools are being explicit about being culturally responsive. This report is a summary of the sharings for the Crosby-Ironton School District.

Positive perspectives on parents and families

Crosby- Ironton Schools has implemented, or changed programming, to better meet the needs of our families. High School conference night is now a choice of the traditional “in the classroom” model or the model of all teachers in a “shared” gym space with local agencies available to also provide information. We have also changed our “model” for 7th grade orientation, back to school night and our 9th grade orientation. The Elementary has adopted beginning of school conferencing for both Pre-school and Kindergarten families. The Elementary has also adopted grade level EXPOs to bring families into the school every year. The Elementary is also hosting 2-3 “family” nights a year for all grade levels to support academics at home.

Effective communication of high expectations for all students

As a district we adopted the Career and College Readiness Benchmark for standardized assessment success. This expectation is that all our students can reach the 65%ile nationally with their Reading and Math.

Student-centered instruction (learning will be cooperative, collaborative, and community oriented)

This area was a focal point for this year. Professional Development was shared regarding Strength-based learning and the opportunity for student choice. Project-based learning is embedded into our CRES WIN time and many High School Classrooms are beginning to adopt the model.

Reshaping the curriculum to include topics related to diverse backgrounds

This is an area of focus in our curriculum review. As we align resources to our standards we are conscious that the materials are multicultural. Our music department bought resources this past year for explicit diversity and our English Language Arts team is currently working hard to find resources to meet this goal area.

Incorporate multicultural thinking and examples. Connect cultural knowledge into classroom experiences, and Staff sensitive to cultural differences

These are the areas of focus identified for the 2019-2020 School Year, explicit, Professional Development.