AREA SCHOOLS District No. 2689 IPESTONE

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October 28, 2024 Board Report - Lisa Pease

It's hard to believe it is the end of October already. I have attended a few virtual meetings regarding the new ELA standards implementation timeline. The implementation stage of the ELA standards is the 2025-2026 school year. During this school year we will be taking a close look at the new standards so that we are ready for full implementation in the fall.

We are also looking at adopting a new ELA curriculum that aligns with the new MN standards and the Science of Reading. The MN Department of Education has a list of curricular resources on their website that they have reviewed and categorized into their level of alignment with evidenced-based structured literacy practices. I have reached out to several companies listed on the MDE website requesting samples so that we can pilot testing in classrooms to assess their practical application and effectiveness. We have met with the elementary literacy team and middle school ELA teachers to gather feedback on what they need and want from a new curriculum. We will be meeting with the high school ELA teachers soon to gather information from them as well.

In an effort to improve the quality of the professional development provided to the paraprofessionals during the Wednesday Early Dismissals, we have purchased an online learning platform called the Master Teacher Paraeducator. These modules help prepare paraprofessionals to take the required assessments to become highly qualified. Some examples of modules are: "Paraeducator Roles and Responsibilities in the Classroom", "Confidentiality", and "Defining and Understanding a Student in Crisis." A paraprofessional that has worked in our district for many years stopped by my office last week to let me know that she appreciated having professional development that was pertinent to her job.

Finally, I have compiled some MCA data and have prepared a Data Dig presentation to share with you this evening.

"Inspire life-long learners. Build Character. Prepare them for their future."

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