

Academic Services

Greetings from the Academic Services Department,

We hope you are enjoying your summer. We are hurriedly getting ready for the 2024-2025 school year and are excited to see the many new resources arriving this month. This includes our new Science and Math adoption materials. Several pallets have been arriving each week and we are quickly getting these items inventoried and distributed to the campuses. Our maintenance team has been extremely helpful and we appreciate their efforts to support us with this process. We know that they are also very busy this summer, and we cannot thank them enough for all they do for us.

Summer School and EOC Testing

We're excited to share an update on the success of our ongoing summer school program. Our students have been actively engaged in learning, utilizing TEA approved resources such as: Zearn and Amplify, resulting in significant gains. We are proud to report that through this extended learning opportunity, we are effectively working to prevent the summer slide and ensure continuous academic growth for our students.

Students participating in credit recovery courses have been making commendable progress, earning credits to enhance their academic standing and readiness for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. The APEX platform has proven to be instrumental in supporting students in their credit recovery journey and preparing them for a successful transition to the new academic year.

Furthermore, we completed End-of-Course (EOC) testing for all of our repeat testers at the high school level. This achievement signifies our commitment to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency in subject matter, ultimately paving the way for their continued academic success.

Instructional Technology

The Instructional Technology team has been actively engaged in leading successful professional learning sessions, focusing on high-interest topics such as AI for teachers, Canva, Project-Based Learning, and TexQuest. These sessions have been designed to enhance the digital skills and pedagogical approaches of our educators.

Moreover, in line with their commitment to continuous professional growth, our instructional technology team will be attending a "Week of Digital Pedagogy Unleashed" at Region 20. This workshop is tailored to hone their skills in utilizing innovative tools such as Pear Deck, Magic School, Edpuzzle, and more. The dedicated focus on these platforms will further empower our team to deliver impactful and engaging technology-enhanced learning experiences for our students.

Instructional Coaching

In order to support both teacher and student learning, the Instructional Coaches have provided several professional development sessions during the NISD Summer Professional Learning Conference, including: Amplify Overview and Internalization Protocols (Kinder-2nd Grades), Syllable Types and Advanced Decoding, and Carnegie Math Assessment Development. In order to continue to grow professionally and effectively support teachers, Mrs. Coppedge will also attend the TEKSCon conference in July.

As part of the Strong Foundations grants, Instructional Coaches are working closely with instructional product specialists from the Region 20 Education Service Center to continue to map our Pathway for Implementation of High Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM). Future planning for the 2024-205 school year includes focused professional learning aligned with HQIM. The Instructional Coaches will also provide professional development tailored to support the implementation of HQIM and aligned with campus goals at the elementary and intermediate campuses, including: Student Data Tracking, Amplify Overview, and Campus Data Dig during the August beginning of the year teacher inservice days. The Instructional Coaches have also worked diligently to develop rigorous, TEKS aligned assessments in the Eduphoria platform that are aligned with HQIM and the District Pacing Guides for the upcoming 2024-25 school year.

ESL Department

The ESL summer school program was very successful and we were able to review student progress reports with the implementation of the MindPlay program. We will be using these growth reports to plan individual supports for these students for the 2024-2025 school year.

The ESL specialists attended the Bilingual/ESL Leadership Academy in June in an effort to stay updated with accountability and best practices for implementing content-based language strategies for all non-native English speakers across the district. Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Arlaus will also attend the Title III Symposium this month. Sessions at this conference will focus on academic achievement and positive



school outcomes for emergent bilingual students. The theme of this year's conference is "United We Thrive," recognizing the benefits of bilingualism and advancing our students to their highest potential.

Many of our content teachers will be taking their ESL certification test this summer. As the district continues to work towards 100% of our staff members obtaining an ESL certification, we will provide training sessions that focus on preparing for this certification test.

PEIMS

We are excited to roll out an updated registration system this month. The PEIMS Coordinator has been working behind the scenes to improve the registration process and updating the ParentPortal to streamline the steps and enhance the user experience. This year, returning student registration will be solely online. Parents/Guardians will update their student information in the portal and upload their required residency document for verification along with their ID card. Parents/Guardians of new students will begin registration by creating a ParentPortal account and entering their student's required information. New student registration will be held in person at the Navarro High School from July 29th through July 31st. New families will need to verify their residency documents in person since they are not yet added to our student information system.

This summer, parents/guardians are able to check their student's STAAR/EOC scores and their student's final grades all in the ParentPortal. Parents do not need to wait for the portal access code to log into their student's state assessments anymore. Our PEIMS Coordinator connected the state's online Student Portal to ParentPortal using a single sign-on system.

The summer is a busy time for PEIMS and our PEIMS Coordinator has completed and submitted the following reports to TSDS which is the state's reporting system: First Summer PEIMS, Child Find, SELA, and ECDS.

Our PEIMS Coordinator attended a certification course presented by TASBO entitled "All About Attendance and Absences." As we improve our attendance monitoring and reporting systems, this session provided resources and best practices that we can use to streamline our processes and improve our overall student attendance outcomes. Navarro ISD has consistently had a high attendance rate, and we want to continue our progress by pursuing professional development that will help us to maintain this.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McMullen Navarro ISD Chief Academic Officer