

## **Curriculum & Instruction Board Report February 2018**

### **Professional Development**

January was a month that accommodated many degrees of professional development for administrators and teachers across the district. To begin, on January 15th Campus Design teams met with Nancy Rindone from the Schlechty Center and looked at the 3 Strategic Change Goals and discussed how these goals will impact campuses. Also on the morning of the 15th Pam Ziolkowski and Angela Boyd worked with the Junior High Campus. Teachers focused on and gained a deeper understanding of rigor and Webb's Depth of Knowledge.

Administrators from across the district also attended the TASA Midwinter Conference. The three day conference provided multiple learning opportunities for attendees as well as time to interface with other districts that have like needs and goals. Additionally, Sheila Bowman and Angela Boyd presented at the conference with Dr. John Horn and Nancy Rindone on how to create the conditions to support a culture of engagement.

Meaningful technology integration and cutting-edge technology tools were the focus for those attending the 2018 TCEA conference. HISD's Instructional Technology Director, Cindy Darden and Executive Director of Innovative Learning, Sheila Bowman attended sessions on ways to enhance 21st century skills through technology tool integration. Mrs. Darden also presented two sessions at the conference.

### **Technology**

Hillsboro ISD has applied for a \$50,000 technology lending grant through TEA. This competitive grant provides funds to purchase devices to lend students to access digital instructional materials at school as well as at home. The grant funds also can be used to provide home internet access. The team of Donald Gordon, Cindy Darden, and Sheila Bowman completed the grant application for Chromebooks and MiFis for student check-out. TEA has scheduled the announcement of grant award recipients on May 1, 2018. The BRIDGE(BRinging Internet and Devices for a Global Education) program at Hillsboro High School was begun through this same grant in 2014.

### **Curriculum and Instruction**

NWEA MAP screening for winter occurred in January as well. Data from universal screening is utilized by campuses from Hillsboro Elementary to Hillsboro Jr. High to not only review student growth but to evaluate success in Tier 2 reading and math programs as well.

Testing season is upon us and that means testing training for campus testing coordinators and teachers. Angela Boyd, Becky Montgomery, and Kathy Groppe attended testing training at Region 12 during the month of January. Testing training, led by Angela Boyd, for campus principals and campus testing coordinators was held on February 9th. Security training will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks for all central office staff, technology office staff and the Maintenance Director. Campus Testing Coordinators will schedule training for their campuses accordingly.

For the first time, TEA is providing on-line interim assessments for grades 3-8 in math and reading. These 40 question assessments were developed by teachers and align to the STAAR. The on-line tests will provide teachers with actionable information to tailor instruction to

meet students' needs. The Junior High and Intermediate campuses will be giving these tests over the next few weeks.

First round STAAR/EOC testing dates: 4th and 7th writing, 5th and 8th reading, and high school English 1 & English 2 will take place on April 10th, 11th and 12th. The next round of tests will happen the first two weeks of May.

### **Other Happenings**

DEIC met on Monday, February 5. The group spent some time finalizing the 2018-19 calendar for recommendation. The School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) also met on Monday afternoon prior to DEIC and began discussing plans for the 4th annual "Good to Go from Head to Toe" event. Each year this event provides assistance and education to economically disadvantaged students and families by providing vision, hearing and dental screenings, information on assistance programs, free school supplies, information regarding vaccinations, free haircuts, and other assistance.