

**Date:** October 6, 2017  
**To:** LPSD School Board Members  
**From:** Bill Cornell  
**Re:** Curriculum and CTE: August-October 2017

**August-September Professional Development:**

August Inservice was delivered online this year, with teachers meeting in person at their sites and logging on to district-wide BlackBoard Collaborate sessions throughout the week. We had a few focuses during the week: site based collaboration and planning sessions focusing on instruction in the Subsistence Calendar; professional development and training related to PowerSchool and BlackBoard Collaborate; and ongoing professional development focusing on Self Regulation.

One of the main take-aways for me with this inservice was the heightened focus on instruction as we enter our first year under the Subsistence Calendar. I think everyone is tightening their belt and approaching their instruction with an eye toward keeping focused, and making efficient use of time.

Tuesday Professional Development- We have been meeting on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 for professional development meetings. This is a shift from previous years, due to the change brought about by the Subsistence Calendar, and the move away from Friday early release time. This has led to our professional development being more to-the-point, and focused. Topics have included PowerTeacher Pro, content and site-based collaboration sessions, AIMSWeb training, and AKCIS training to help students become career or college ready.

**Curriculum:**

Reading Committee- We will be pulling our Reading Committee together throughout this year to look at our reading program. This will include determining a new core resource for teaching lower levels; our current resource has been in use for over a decade. They will also be looking at our end-of-level assessments, and creating a guide to our reading program for new and veteran teachers to use while we shift to a new core resource.

Culture Committee- The Subsistence Calendar has brought about a number of questions regarding our Cultural Awareness standards, including whether or not our local cultures are best reflected in the standards, and how students could “experience out” of a level if they have spent their summer at a fish camp, commercial fishing, or traveling abroad. We will be looking at our Cultural Awareness standards to ensure that there is a balance between exploring local and world cultures, and develop a system for students to be able to experience out of levels based on their cultural experiences.

Writing Prompt Committee- During October Inservice, our Writing Prompt Committee will meet to discuss possible Level Writing Prompts that will allow students to explore specific student wellness and safety topics.

**Distance Classes:**

We currently have over 60 students taking LPSD distance reading and math classes in Levels 6-10. As our distance learning options evolve, it will be important to explore the best options for our students. Currently, there are a number of online learning options

that could help our program become even more efficient and productive, and we will be exploring these throughout the year.

### **CTE**

I am excited to include this here as part of my Curriculum report! Session I, held from September 18-22, was a big success. Classes included Commercial Fishing, Coding, Intro to Aviation Careers, and Intro to Healthcare Professions. There were also evening sessions that focused on employability and job readiness skills.

Our next session will be November 1-6, with classes to include Heavy Equipment Operator training, Home Energy Basics, Intro to Nautical Skills, Medical Terminology, and Emergency Trauma/First Responder Training. This is an incredibly relevant program and we thank you for your support!

As always, feel free to contact me at 571-1211, or via email at [bcornell@lpsd.com](mailto:bcornell@lpsd.com), if you have any curriculum or CTE related questions.