

Feb 12, 2019

Re: Superintendent's School Board Report

Board Goal 1: Increase academic achievement across the district.

- Data meetings have been conducted with each principal. The data team, led by Mrs. Britton, reviews trends, success points, and opportunities for growth.
- Superintendent instructional tours through 4 schools and 14 classrooms.
- Met with high school leadership team to discuss effective grading practices that have potential to increase student engagement and encourage parent involvement. Purchased 40 copies of the book, *How to Grade for Learning* by Ken O'Conner. Began conversation with high school teachers about the book study and professional development needs to review grading practices.
- Changed internal assessment from CASE 21 to ELS. This internal assessment is given every nine weeks and used to group students and to predict how we will do on the MAEP (Mississippi State Assessment).
- Reviewing current benchmark assessment and comparing options: STAR, NWEA, and I-Ready. A benchmark assessment is given three times a year to find out how our students measure academically on a nationally normed assessment. We currently use STAR, however, there is some question regarding continuation due to an absence of staff development. This is a good time to review options. We had a representative of NWEA give a presentation and we have a representative group of principals attending an I-Ready conference.
- Attended MASS in Jackson for one week and participated in one session given by MDE on AP class structure and design.
- Had conversation with high school principal about pros and cons of block scheduling and a comparison to a modified block schedule.

Board Goal 2: Provide a safe, secure and orderly environment in all schools.

- Provided CHAMPS: Safe and Civil Schools training to all principals and assistant principals.
- Conducted instructional tours at Lawhon and Parkway to identify critical data points such as the ratio of positive to negative interactions.

Board Goal 3: Attract and retain all stakeholders.

- Met with 4 parents on various issues of concern: 2 at the middle school and 2 at the high school.
- Accepted \$40,000 grant from Toyota Wellspring Foundation to implement Project Lead the Way. We intend to introduce PLW (Project Lead the Way) in our Challenge Program at the 3-5 level and then expand to our other classrooms at the 3-5 level. We are working on communication plan.
- We are continuing our conversation with ICC and MDE in our attempts to design a Middle College opportunity.
- Met with representatives from MDE in secondary curriculum and other departments in an effort to establish a relationship.
- Met with leadership from CREATE and CDF. Also attended two Rotary meetings.
- Met with regional superintendents in an effort to establish a relationship. Had personal one on one meetings with Lee Childress from Corinth and Todd English from Boonville.

Board Goal 4: Maintain sound financial stability.

- Fund Balance: 28,878,356.71
- State and Local Revenue: 62,336,527.51
46.33%
- Conducting resource map meetings with principals and department heads to go over individual budgets in an effort to identify needs and pockets of unspent funding.
- Two-week turnaround paying all vendors.
- Do not have to issue tax anticipation notes to make payroll while waiting for ad valorem.
- Maintain AA- bond rating which is as high as any school district in the state.

This concludes the superintendent's report.

