



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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TO: Board Of Education
FROM: Superintendent Dr. Carol Kelley
SUBJECT: Superintendent's Report
DATE: February 13, 2018

Video – IB Program

The Communications Department met with Dr. Helen Wei and representatives from both middle schools about the creation of a video regarding the district's IB program. The group discussed the potential goals and key takeaways for the video, as well as the timeline and logistics for getting it done. The tentative plan is to complete the project by the end of February.

Professional Learning

Michael Arensdorff led a professional learning session at Lincoln. Similar to past sessions he focused on leveraging the tool Apple Classroom with student ipads to help teachers to guide student work, manage instructional content for all students, as well as, allows them to monitor and interact with students throughout the class period.

During the January 26 Institute Day, the department of Administrative Services conducted an all-day session on data surety with the building Administrative Assistants. The morning session was focused on checking student records in Power School (Title I, gifted, etc.). In the afternoon, each building Administrative Assistant shared a PowerPoint presentation on best practices in data surety as it relates to their building specific focus. Information was shared on the following topics: attendance, tardies, lunch count, operational handbooks for staff, emergency contacts, beginning of the year teacher communication, and volunteer parents. All of the PowerPoints are in a data surety Google Drive that has been share with all building AA's.

State Matching Grant

The Technology Department has completed the majority of the State Matching Grant for fiber, which ties into the Oak Park Broadband project that the district is and the Village of Oak Park are collaborating on. The Technology team will be able to complete this grant following the proposals that they receive for this eRate fiber project on February 5, and submit he proposal by February 9.

National Equity Project Training-Designing & Facilitating Meetings for Equity

On Thursday and Friday, district office leaders, principals, instructional coaches, and District 97 Diversity Council members attended training facilitated by the National Equity Project on Designing and Facilitating Meetings for Equity. Participants:

- Experienced a powerful model of effective adult learning, and learned how to design a similar experience in their own context
- Gained new knowledge and frameworks for agenda design, “whole person learning,” cultivating a positive group dynamic and developing effective teams
- Learned about the neuroscience of emotion to help predict and respond to strong emotions in the group, especially when addressing equity issues
- Learned new strategies, received new tools (e.g. agenda templates, meeting activities, facilitation tips) and planned how to use them in their context

Data Dive

Teaching and Learning is beginning to prepare for the data dive that will occur on February 12 during Ad Leadership. A facilitated conversation will be held for principals and members of their teams that afternoon to prepare data dives for each of their buildings.

Middle School Electives

The department of Administrative Services worked with the middle school principals to create the template for the 2018-2019 elective course selections for all students in grades 5-7. Current 6th and 7th grade students were given time in advisory to choose their electives. Current 5th grade parents have been provided with their students PowerSchool user name and password to select electives for the coming year.