



Arkansas School for the Deaf

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Jacob Oliva
Secretary

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Superintendent

Board of Trustees

ASD Superintendent's Report

September 17, 2024

State of the School

- Enrollment numbers: 107
 - High School- 35
 - Middle School- 20
 - Lower School including ECC: 52
- Staffing Numbers: 110 full time
- Current Vacant Positions: None at this time
- Restructuring Systems:
 - Roy DePriest- Director of Facilities
 - Changes: Roy is adding supervision of custodial services, M&R, and continuation of his responsibilities over groundskeeping and maintenance.

Academic Performance

- Attendance rates:
 - MS/HS for 10 Day Count: 92%
 - The new attendance policy is well into implementation
 - Perfect attendance for Q1 will be awarded soon and celebrate the goal of 90% attendance each quarter!
 - Lower School for 10 day Count: 94%
 - Strategies such as reminders on Parent Square have been implemented to help increase attendance and decrease tardy rates.
 - NWEA Map was given September 9th-12th. Scores will be forthcoming for October.

Programs and Initiatives

- Special Education:
 - ADE and ASD met to review the still required components of the CAP. The most prominent need is for enrollment/admissions policy to be clearly outlined. ASB's Brandy Faught and ASD's Stacy Kratky are working together to create a common policy that supports local school

districts in transitioning their students to our school. This common policy will be drafted and ready for discussion and review in October.

- Extracurricular activities and participation rates
 - Fall Sports are in full swing.
 - First football game was September 14th.
 - Volleyball Spikeout was September 14th.
 - Coaches have supported athletes by driving vans after practices for day students! Thank you to them!
- Para Academy
 - Professional Learning Community for our Paraeducators
 - Includes academic supports and behavioral training
 - Provides opportunities to discuss needs and ways to best support teachers.
 - Attended by: 9 paras this month
 - Discussions with ASB to start building a program there as well.

Staffing

- New hires, retirements, and resignations
 - New Hires:
 - Paras
 - Agri Teacher
 - Media Specialist- Shared Position
 - Retirements: None
 - Resignations/Termination: None
- Professional development opportunities and outcomes
 - PLCs have been established
 - MS/HS will be meeting monthly for departmental meetings
 - Lower School: Established goals for teachers participation in targeted professional learning and progress monitoring
- Staff recognition and achievements
 - All instructional leaders participated in our first cross-campus meeting where introductions and goals were created.
 - KaAnn Varner has demonstrated outstanding leadership over this past month by supporting her teachers with behaviors and establishing expectations.

School Operations

- Facilities and maintenance updates
 - Preventative maintenance is a continuing struggle as the department remains understaffed. Positions are posted.
 - Repairs were completed to the bleachers on the visitor's and home sides as well as the decking.
 - Electrical work was completed on the football field to allow for new LED lighting. This is for safety.

- Transportation Department Updates
 - Routes have been established and are successfully being implemented.
 - Potential changes to transportation logistics for construction are in discussion at this time.
- Technology Department Updates
 - New Chromebooks were ordered, set up, and deployed for all HS students.
 - Cable Service and usage was reviewed and cable services were determined to be an unnecessary/underutilized expense. These services were canceled. Cost per month: approximately \$1500 resulting in an estimated \$18,000 savings per year.
 - Cell phone distribution and usage is being evaluated for additional cost savings.
- Fiscal Management
 - ASD received a grant for High Impact Tutoring Services: \$1350
 - Budgets are being actively reviewed for inefficiencies and needed changes. More to come later.