

Superintendent's Update

For the period: October 12, 2016 through November 8, 2016

Maintaining an Instructional Focus

- We received the books that we purchased to deliver to the families during our home visits. We will not have enough funds to provide books every visit, so we will focus on those students with the greatest identified needs.

Construction Progress

- A drain was added in the playground area where ponding was taking place, so the Phase One of the playground project is now completed. Students are excited about the new basketball courts and climbing web.
- We are still struggling with older students getting into the playground areas after hours. The concern is that they might break some of the toys that are designed for younger kids such as the spring-mounted riding toys or the adjustable height basketball goals. After receiving the approval of the facilities committee, we have asked Tim Peterson to work up a cost estimate to move ahead with the fencing of the playground that had been moved to Phase two of the project.

Health Insurance

- We met on Thursday, October 27th, with representatives from Payne West and Blue Cross Blue Shield to work through some of our concerns with the transition to a new third party administrator for the district's health insurance. Based on recommendations from Payne West last spring, the insurance committee supported using Blue Cross Blue Shield in place of EBMS as our third party administrator for our health insurance.
- There have been some obstacles during the transition period such as individuals who had their prescriptions denied or people who tried to use the preventive dental services only to find out that they were not eligible. To my knowledge all of this early errors have been corrected.
- Our employees should have received their ID cards for the portions of the health insurance they requested.
- Moving forward in partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield, there should be an array of services available to our employees that they have not had access to the past.

Upcoming Activities

- Mr. Rouse will be attending OPI's ESSA Planning Group meeting in Helena on November 10th.