

### **Assessment**

- PALS = We are now in the optional winter testing window. The PALS assessment will be done with a small group of children where progress data will be beneficial.
- NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) = We have been selected for testing at grades 4 and 8 in February. While the on-site test administration tasks will be handled by NAEP staff, there are significant behind-the-scenes preparation requirements that I have been addressing with the NAEP Coordinator.
- ACT, ACTAspire, and Badger Exams = These new state assessments occur in March, April and May (more information to you at that time). In order for these to occur, as per strictly defined criteria, I have been participating in various trainings, webinars, etc. at this time. The requirements are extensive and advance tasks are numerous and detailed. Next week and in early February I will begin meeting with the principals regarding local planning logistics.

### **Curriculum**

- Resource examination and evaluation has been occurring over the past semester in math, science, and social studies for grades 7 – 12. In about a month we'll be ready to narrow down some choices, examine cost proposals, and develop a purchasing timeline.
- Science and Social Studies instruction have been the focus of two curriculum work sessions with the teachers of Grade 4. They have focused on critical content, learning targets, essential questions, and evidence of learning (assessment).
- 4K curriculum development work sessions begin at the end of January and will occur over three Fridays. The focus will be on the Wisconsin Early Learning Standards and modules and how they guide our program structure and instructional design.
- Carl Perkins Mini Grant = As the District's Perkins Designee, I wrote a mini-grant for Jeff Ladd and the Agriculture Department. Due to limited funding capabilities for our CESA consortium, the number of awardees is limited and the maximum dollar amount that can be requested is \$900. Requirements pertain to intended use of the item, connections to Programs of Study, and the ability of the request to support the development of a strong Career and Technical Education program. We have been awarded our application of \$900 to be used for an equipment purchase that will support the starting of hydroponics instruction in Cameron High School. While it's a small grant, in terms of things in the "grant world", it provides a meaningful and useful resource for the district. These are very competitive grants for CESA 11 school districts.
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) continue to focus on powerful components that make a positive impact on student learning. Critical Vocabulary Part 2 is the key topic for January. The PLC process asks schools/teachers to look at all things through the lens of learning: teaching, policies, and procedures. In this initial year of using the PLC process, we are establishing a foundation built on understanding learning that will guide our study of data and related goal setting. With learning as the key focus, choices and planning decisions align for the right reasons.