

Teaching and Learning - Board Report

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Positive Talking Points:

- The requirements of Act 20 are well on the way to being met. The timeline is tight and the concern over the amount of communication required for students who could be in need of a Personalized Reading Plan is high but these are things we are prepared to tackle.
- Training for CKLA and Savvas has begun and is now at an early implementation stage. We are still learning but teachers are excited about the new resources.
- The new teachers are excellent additions to the district. Their energy is contagious and their attention to detail, competency, and care are exciting.

Pillar #1: Teaching, Learning and Relevance

- All teachers went through high-quality training during the August in-service. A significant amount of training was for ELA. All ELA teachers in grades PK-11 went through a full day of training.
- We have new screening assessments in all grades PK-8. Some of it due to Act 20, others as a consequence of funding for Act 20. We are excited about the opportunities but also realize there will be bumps in the road. Screening starts the 3rd week of the school year.
- We have actively started curriculum revisions in the following areas:
 - PK-5: ELA, Social Studies, STEM
 - 6-8: ELA, Math, STEM
 - 9-12: ELA, Math, Social Studies, CTE, Science
- In addition to the curriculum revisions, we have had discussions with our arts programs to determine the need for future revisions.

Pillar #2: The Whole Student

- We are developing the Personal Reading Plan required for Act 20. Although not a requirement until later in the year, we are starting in the Fall to test our system and refine it. All students below the 25th percentile are required to have a Personal Reading Plan.

- Interventionists are supporting all K-2 classrooms during their Skills sessions to further aid our struggling students.
- The MLSS system has been updated and restarted for the year. Working with the Elementary Principal, we have set MLSS days to further support our students and the teachers whose time it takes to determine the next best steps for the student.

Pillar #3: Communication and Community Engagement

- After the Fall screening assessments, we need to send out notifications for student performance to all families. This is a requirement of Act 20.
- Planning for the February 13th Showcase will ratchet up and continue throughout the year.

Pillar #4: District Workforce

- New Teacher Orientation went very well. Next year, we are planning to refine our use of Mentors to increase their expertise for the new teachers. Expect to hear more about this in the coming months.
- Act 20 training has begun. The initial meeting about it went quite well with the teachers. If you want to know more about it, please ask.

Pillar #5: Operational Excellence

- As I continue to talk with teachers, I find connections that we are missing in curriculum and programming. I work to connect the parts to make a better whole. With the refresh in Pupil Services, there are more gaps that need to be filled regarding instruction for Special Ed. We are currently working with our Functional support but have other areas we are addressing also.