
Board of Education Report

August 2013

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Curriculum

- ✓ As reported last month, facilitated and independent curriculum development has been a significant focus of the summer. Teachers have developed quality learning and assessment tools for English Language Arts and Mathematics.
- ✓ Planning is underway to offer a series of “Best Practices” mini sessions in 2013-2014. Topics will be chosen that will support a standards-based classroom and equip teachers with strategies. Examples: Developing Habits of Mind, grading and assessment, using essential questions, the role of learning targets and benchmarks, reading skills in the content areas, text complexity, SBAC design.
- ✓ Common Core State Standards are required to be implemented in 2014-2015. Our district will begin the transition in 2013-2014. While there is always more work to be done, it is time to begin this instruction and evaluate what work remains to be done. Time has been built into the August inservice schedule for me to work with the teachers, at all three buildings, regarding the CCSS implementation process for this year.
- ✓ I have met with Susan Brooks regarding district details for curriculum and instruction. Before school starts I will be meeting with Kate Lapcinski about curricular details. A mentor has been arranged for Kate and I will meet with this person to talk about the invaluable role of a mentor and district expectations.

Assessment

- ✓ PALS (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening) is required in Wisconsin schools. Last year was the first year of this assessment and it was administered in Kindergarten. This year the state has added 4K and Grade 1. Initial plans are in place and teacher meetings have been scheduled for August 28 and September 9, 2013.
- ✓ WKCE – Initial plans are in place for the administration of this assessment in late October and early November. More details will come in the future. Beginning next year the schools in Wisconsin will transition to a new assessment.
- ✓ WISEdash is the new online data storage system that allows us to work with a wide variety of student information such as achievement, enrollment, attendance, and post-secondary enrollment. The principals and I are working towards effective use of the information available for planning, goal development, achievement analysis, and response to intervention.