

Superintendent's Report September 20, 2018

The school year is off to an outstanding start and we have much to be proud of as our teachers and students are back into the full swing of the school year. Each year I am amazed at the work our teachers and students accomplish together and this year is no different. Through our District Improvement Plan we will be communicating the good we do in our District by “telling our story” in multiple ways i.e. social media, website, newspaper, video, meetings and more. Additionally, with Evidence Based Funding in place and through ESSA we have the opportunity to drive our resources where they are needed the most. During our upcoming Board meeting I plan to share a draft of our Evidence Based Funding Spending Plan to begin generating discussion about where we head next.

ESSA/EBF

This past month has been spent on our budget (specifically EBF) and ESSA. We are using these initial dollars to our most under-resourced area first while staying aligned with our mission and vision. A large amount of time has been spent on learning the latest updates and revisions to ESSA which has been done through face-to-face meetings, workshops, webinars, and telephone conferences.

At the end of the month we are convening our District Improvement Team. The purpose of this meeting will be to align our strategic plan with the quality frameworks via ESSA and solicit feedback from stakeholders. Recommendations for revisions to the strategic plan will be made as needed. The team will rank and prioritize the quality frameworks and formulate an action plan for presentation to the board of education on no more than two indicators.

Another significant tool available to us will be a strategic dashboard to “tell our story” to stakeholders. We have access to this dashboard now but it will take a significant amount of time to set up. The goal is to have the dashboard completed by the end of the first semester.

Parent/Teacher Home Visit Pilot

Our district has partnered with the Southwestern School District to form a PTHV cohort where teachers from both districts are going to join together for training to learn the most effective home visit strategies. Teams will then conduct coordinated home visits during the week of PT conferences. PTHV is aligned with our school culture/climate quality indicator. Our goal is to improve upon the ways we engage families with the greatest needs.

Supervisory Aide Position Posting

As instructional aide responsibilities continue to grow with providing services and interventions with students combined with increased numbers of students eating, covering direct supervision responsibilities during “unstructured time” is a growing challenge. In discussions with administration we plan to post a supervisory position to recommend to the board to hire during the October meeting. The wages for this position are to be paid for via risk management/tort. The position has been written into the risk management plan in the past, but insurance premiums have utilized the vast majority of funds. This year there was significant savings with insurance premiums allowing dollars to be accessed for this position.