

JULY ENTRY PLAN UPDATE

It has been a great first month serving in my new role. Connecting with community members I have not seen in many years and meeting new community members has been a great step. Everyone is welcoming and excited for my family to be part of Smithville. We are moving in the next couple of weeks and once that transition is complete we will be able to feel more settled.

Throughout July, I have been able to attend several local organizational meetings and connect with members of the Chamber and Rotary. It also has been good to speak with community members and learn about their hopes and aspirations for the future Smithville School District. During the month, I was able to meet with Mayor Boley and learn about his vision for the city of Smithville. Mr. Moore and I met with Chief Lockridge and the City Administrator, Cynthia Wagner, to begin planning for our Homecoming activities. Overall, it was a productive month and the ability to connect and network has helped me broaden my understanding of the community.

This month provided me time to learn about the District and learn more about our strengths and opportunities moving ahead. This month we spent two mornings with the building administrators to identify key indicators of our strategic plan that we want to monitor as we move forward into year two of the most recent version of the Missouri School Improvement Plan (MSIP) process. It was good to learn where the buildings felt they were strong and what areas they had identified as opportunities for improvement from the previous year when they worked with staff. At the end of the month, we will be working with building principals to identify days where I can come to their building and spend the day engaging with staff and learning more about each building's culture. The excitement our building leaders bring is contagious and I look forward to our continued collaboration.

As an administrative team we continue to collaborate to strengthen our leadership and work to sharpen our practices to further support our staff. One of the items the community and our buildings are excited about is continuing to bring Real-World Learning experiences to our students. We know to accomplish this work it takes our entire community and district working collaboratively to build relevant and engaging learning experiences for our students. We have had an initial meeting with the high school to specifically think about how we are going to engage our Juniors and Seniors in experiences that we know will provide them a step up after their transition out of high school. The response from our community to provide relevant learning experiences for our students is invigorating.