Report to the BOE
Mark Mathews
January 8, 2018 meeting

Upcoming dates to note for grades 5-8:
Week of 1/14/19-STAR Reading and Math assessments administered to 5-8
Week of 1/22/19-Interim 2 Assessments administered to 5-8
1/24/19-Roller Skating Party Grades 5-8 from 6:00-8:00 PM
1/25/19-End of Quarter 2

Introducing Mr. Brady Farnand as our new Assistant Principal. Brady has hit the ground running, attending a dance on his first day of work. He has jumped right in with students and families, and has shown some great promise as an administrator. We have a lot to discuss, but so far we have had some very engaging conversations about how we can develop smooth-running systems to make sure that we don't miss even one student who isn't making progress. So far, we have discussed improving our systems to:

- Be clear about expectations as it relates to all aspects of the school environment, the bus, the playground, the hallway, the restroom. Revisit these expectations frequently and with targeted groups of students. Develop common interventions for when students are in unstructured environments such as the bus, the playground, or the locker room.
- Respond early when a student or students are not making progress alongside their peers.
- Engaging with families in a constructive manner to problem-solve and identify pathways for success at the elementary and middle levels.

There are many more topics for discussion, but I'm very pleased to have Mr. Farnand as part of the team.

MTSS-Tier 1 Action Plan
SAP Goals 1, 2
Tenets 3 and 4

I'm working with Kristine Cameron, BOCES instructional coach, on working with seventh and eighth grade teachers to develop our students' capacity to identify and understand words in context. Grades 7 and 8 are revisiting their action plans, and unifying their efforts to develop student capacity to attack unknown vocabulary words. We are also doing more direct instruction on vocabulary as part of our planning. Improved vocabulary skills can lead students to much greater success in all content areas, but our target is to show improvement in ELA and Mathematics. I'll share the plan with you at the next BOE meeting.

Once the STAR Reading and Math scores are tabulated, we will analyze the results as they are compared to the results from the fall administration of the assessment. In the fall, all families received a letter indicating their child's STAR Grade Equivalency. At the end of the month, families will receive a second letter informing them of their child's progress to this point in the school year. We recognize and celebrate those students who have made progress by announcing them at Town Hall meetings and sending congratulatory coupons home. We identify interventions and organize test retakes for those who have not made adequate progress alongside their grade level peers. I'll share this data with you at the next BOE meeting. This is an important measure for us, because as I

pointed out at November's BOE meeting, we have identified a strong correlation on the NYS Math assessment proficiency/mastery results, and how well our students do on the STAR Reading, but especially the STAR Math.

Fifth and sixth grade level teams are continuing their work to improve student English language learning through their Tier 1 action plans.

- Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details.
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 6 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

At the end of this month, our students will take the second interim assessment. I'm already working with teachers on scheduling this administration at all levels, 5-8. At this time, we are administering interims in ELA and Math. I should have the results, prepared for the February BOE meeting.

SLT
SAP goals 1, 2
Tenet 2, 3, 4, 6

From December's report, this work continues-SLT is working to develop a plan for getting information from all our parents and families, with the survey that has been used in the past two years. We are planning to provide reinforcement, communication, reminders, an "all-out-blitz" to try to get these surveys back so that we can get valid, reliable input from all our families.