North Rose-Wolcott Elementary

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Board of Education Report - February 2019

Upcoming Events:

- 2/11-12 Florentina fun days
- 2/13 Family Fun Night - One Book One School Celebration
- 2/15 Cubby Club
- 2/28 PE Night at the HS 6pm
- 3/7 Roller Skating Party

Character Traits of Focus:

- Love
- Fairness
- Cheering on others' success
- Love of learning

Strategic Action Plan Goals:

1-By June 2019, all students taking a state assessment will be proficient (3 or 4, 65 or higher).
2-By June 2019, each student who has achieved mastery will maintain mastery, and the percentage of new students achieving mastery will increase.
3-By June 2019, by the end of second grade, all students will read at or above grade level.
4- We will increase students' participation in STEAM courses by 10% per year.

Tenet 2 Building Leadership & Capacity	SAP Goal(s) Connection	Action Steps
	Goals 1, 2, 3	Staff have participated in a few different professional development activities this past month. At our faculty meeting for January we continued to reflect on our Responsive Classroom implementation successes, reviewed Check in/Check out procedures (school-wide behavior feedback system), and shared out about our plans for spring remodel at NRWE. After school staff-led professional development is ongoing. This month we have had writing PD, Daily 5 (station rotation model), and data-driven instruction work. These opportunities support the implementation of Personalized Learning. Teachers have time to work with colleagues in developing learning tasks and revise their instructional delivery system with PL in mind. Utilizing NRWE teachers is both cost-effective, but also allows for monthly PD to be offered. It has become part of our standard operating procedure to have staff lead and participate in an organic system that can respond to teacher needs in a timely delivery model.
	Goal 1, 2, 3	One of our main priorities within the Strategic Plan is to create a community of readers and writers. We've found that the hub of action on this goal lies in the Library Media Center. Mrs. Demaray has coordinated student entries into two different writing contests this year. Additionally, the One Book, One School project has added a buzz to our school as a school-wide book club. Students continue to turn in their coloring contest entries. They are also participating in book trivia. We are looking forward to a Literacy Night in February to culminate this project with a movie showing of *the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* with our students and their families. Teachers taking the lead on these projects helps them to put their stamp on the process, and builds ownership and buy-in for the staff. Admin-led literacy projects do not garner as much participation by students and staff, so we are very grateful when the staff dive in and flex their creativity and leadership on these special projects.

Tenet 3 Curriculum Development & Support	SAP Goal(s) Connection	Action Steps
	Goals 1, 2, 3	The curriculum work continues this month with our kindergarten team. Looking at common assessment tools (including office discipline referrals and academic measures), the team was recognizing that they saw trends in student learning that they were struggling to meet within the traditional instructional model. Teachers have identified students with gaps in their understanding, including in processing their emotions and following school expectations, and created focused small group lessons. They've revisited the use of our human resources in kindergarten-teachers, interventionists, reading teachers, and aides. The team is finalizing their data collection, tracking and goal-setting for this process. Again, we utilized the Community Schools team via Mr. Roscup to offer our students enrichment while our teachers worked!

Tenet 4 Teacher Practices & Decisions	SAP Goal(s) Connection	Action Steps
	Goals 1, 2, 3	We have begun seeing the outside observers in January at NRWE. Teachers continue to review their practices and decisions within the APPR and Leverage Leadership post-conferences. We utilize these conferences to assess teacher PD-needs, to guide our faculty meetings, and customize our weekly Tier 1 Instructional meetings. We have also piloted our first NRWE "Ghost walk". This is an opportunity for staff to tour their colleagues' classrooms and explore implementation of Personalized Learning. Staff were asked to leave out PL tasks/activities they're trying out in the classroom. This was spearheaded by our teacher team that participated in learning walks in neighboring districts. This is a practice supported by our WFL BOCES Personalized Learning consortium. These visits have invigorated our team and given them many new ideas and flexible furniture options to explore!

Tenet 5 Student Social & Emotional Developmental Health	SAP Goal(s) Connection	Action Steps
		We are finalizing our planning for extending the Responsive Classroom initiative with BOCES collaboration this summer. There are two teachers who participated in the 4-day training this year, 30 who participated last summer, and another 13 staff members who will be attending this summer. We are working hard to achieve 100% of staff trained. Why is Responsive Classroom important for our students social and emotional development? Essentially, it creates a classroom community that connects each child to the school and their peers. From their brochure: *The Responsive Classroom approach is a nationally used, research-backed way of teaching that improves students' social and academic skills and raises teachers' instructional quality…use of the R.C. approach experience higher teaching quality, increased student engagement, academic gains, fewer discipline problems, and a stronger, safer school community.* What does RC look like in the classroom? Students and staff start each day with a morning meeting that includes a specialized greeting that varies each day, a sharing portion, morning message and a connection to curriculum (ie. Positivity Project, social studies, etc). The routines and procedures are taught through an interactive modelling process. This makes expectations clear to staff, and consistent throughout the school. Other components include focusing classroom on students' hopes, shared development of classroom rules, a space in the room to decompress, buddy classrooms, and a closing meeting. Implementation is a multi-year process and will require ongoing PD.

Tenet 6 Family & Community Engagement	SAP Goal(s) Connection	Action Steps
	Goal 1	Our Cougar Pride Parent group and several of our staff members met with Director of Food Services, Donna Riviello, to discuss school lunch. ● Community eligibility for universal free lunch was a main topic of conversation.

		Donna explained in detail the eligibility and application process, costs the District would incur at different rates, and due dates for the process. Additionally, she discussed issues with participation while working on the capitol project. ● We also discussed food quality and choices made for menu development. ● The renovations to NRWE kitchen/cafe/library were explained, and the impact on school lunch service this spring. ● The staff team were asked to consider piloting breakfast in the classroom. Approximately 10 K-4 staff members have already signed up!
	Goal 2	Unfortunately, our winter literacy event in January was sparsely attended. We are looking forward to our OBOS celebration mid-February. The late February PE night is an annual evening event held at the HS gym. Students demonstrate what they've been working on in PE. The Cougar Pride Parents are looking to also participate in this event and offer snacks. We are also in the planning stages for a March math night. Kristin DeFeo is helping to coordinate a Pi-Day event that will encourage families to come to school and celebrate student learning!