

BOE Report
February 8, 2017
M. Stevenson, ASI

Student Achievement

Please refer to the NRW Strategic Action Plan Mid-Year Update for student achievement information.

Professional Development

We are still waiting to hear back from NYSED regarding the changes that were submitted in January. I have contacted them-again.

We had a Superintendent's Conference Day this past Friday, February 3rd, and the focus was Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). Each School Leadership Team (SLT) planned and facilitated the staff development on this day. Teachers talked about strategies to support small groups struggling learners in the classroom (tier 2), Writer's Workshop, and class routines and procedures. Staff also worked in departments/grade levels to examine student assessment data and review new standards and information regarding their grade level or content area.

DCIP, SCEP, and LAP Plans

We continue to implement the SCEP at the MS, the LAP at the elementary school, and the DCIP at the district level, all of which are aligned with the District's Strategic Action Plan. I attended a Focus District Institute training in Albany last week. We heard from many different schools and districts regarding the different strategies that they are implementing in their quest to improve student achievement results. Their struggles with staff buy-in, culture, and poverty are all similar to the areas that we struggle with, and likewise, the strategies that they are implementing such as reviewing lesson plans, requiring learning targets to be posted, and use of formative assessment, are all similar to what we are doing. It was a reinforcement of the goals and action steps of our strategic action plan.

APPR

We are in full-swing with our implementation of the APPR plan. Principals have been conducting observations and we have not heard any complaints from staff thus far. The committee will be meeting next week (we had to reschedule a previously scheduled meeting) to discuss how things are going and problem-solve any issues. That committee is made up of administrators and teachers. Our outside independent evaluator, Gary Astles, participated in training with BOCES, and has started unannounced observations. If you recall, each teacher has an unannounced observation which is done in most cases by their principal, and each teacher will have an unannounced observation done by the outside independent evaluator. Gary will be in each building at least one day per week and has an extremely tight timeframe in which to complete the observations.

The committee also did some work around the people who do not fall under APPR and the group came to some good solutions and feel that the time was well-spent and productive. Cary Merritt and I met with the Teaching Assistants on February 3rd to get input from them regarding their evaluation process. They were very pleased to have been asked for their input and many good ideas came out as a result of the conversation.

The administrative team and 2 representatives from the NRWTA will participate in inter-rater reliability exercises over the course of the school year.

Melanie E. Stevenson