

## Director of Curriculum & Instruction BOE Report for 2015-16

Building/Administrator: M. Stevenson

Date of Meeting: 3/8/16

### Student Achievement:

Our biggest news is the focus school (MS-economically disadvantaged) and focus district (Hispanic) designation that we received from the NYS Education Department. The middle school assembled a team to attend training in Buffalo to prepare us for the review process; the documentation we need to collect, the rubric that is used, and the structure of the school visits. The NYS Education Department will be visiting the middle school on April 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> to conduct the review. They will be reviewing documents, meeting with focus groups, and observing all classrooms in the building. From there, a plan with recommendations for corrective action will be developed, the SCEP (School Comprehensive Educational Plan). It is going to be a tremendous amount of work but we are looking at it as an opportunity to take an unbiased look at our practices and to improve student outcomes. 2 things that we already have in place that are going to serve us well are Leverage Leadership and the School-Based Inquiry Process. DCI is attending training next week in Albany to be trained in the DTSDE tool (Diagnostic Tool for School and District Effectiveness), which is the rubric that is used in the process. We will have to develop and DCIP (District Comprehensive Improvement Plan) to address the district status.

Strategic Planning: We will be presenting the District Strategic Plan at the March 22<sup>nd</sup> BOE meeting. We are in the process of refining and organizing that plan. The 4 goals that you will read and hear about target: student proficiency on state assessments, student mastery on state assessments, K-2 reading, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics). The process has been a tremendous amount of work for the school staff and community members, however we are confident that we have a plan that will lead to continuous improvement of student achievement and outcomes.

School-Based Inquiry Process: Teachers reviewed their interim assessment data on February 12<sup>th</sup> and action plans were created in response to the data. We have 1 more early release day on May 6<sup>th</sup> where we will engage in the data driven dialogue again and create plans that will be shared with the following year's teachers to best meet student's needs.

### Grants:

We received great news from the Teaching is the Core Grant that we participated in last year. That was the grant where we reviewed our current assessment practices, made recommendations for assessments we were going to eliminate from our repertoire and then engaged in professional development to create authentic, performance-based assessments. We recently received word from the

NYS Education Department that NRW's plan has been recognized as a great plan and it will be posted on the Teaching is the Core website as 1 of 5 exemplars.

Steve, Mark Mathews, DCI and 2 teachers traveled to Saratoga Springs in February for the Consortium of Innovation (LEAF grant). The goal of the grant is to focus on knowledge management specifically in the areas of: instructional leadership, teacher/principal collaboration, and communication. Our team has decided to focus on instructional leadership, specifically with the role of lead teachers on curriculum council. That group will be revamped to take on greater responsibility with the strategic plan and individual building improvement plans.

APPR:

The team met on March 2<sup>nd</sup> for a full day of negotiations. A lot of progress was made in negotiating an agreement. The team will meet again for a full day of negotiations in April.