

Administrative Bulletin to Board Members

November 1, 2013

Superintendent Report

Construction

Energy Savings

John is presently still working with Nexus, Traine, and Reynolds in order to insure the controls work as per specifications.

Plan Con Part G

We had received verbal confirmation earlier regarding Plan Con part G which is projective accounting based on bids. We now have written approval from the Department of Education and this will be on the next board agenda to be approved.

Plan Con

The second construction meeting was held today. Minutes from the first meeting were reviewed and are attached. The preliminary schedule was updated and will be available beginning next week. Upon receiving the updated preliminary schedule I will be mailing you a copy.

We also looked at the walls behind the chalk board that I pointed out on the tour prior to the last board meeting. The simplest and least inexpensive fix will be to increase board size so as to cover the wall where the previous boards were. We also reviewed eliminating the pine boarders to the corners and showcases in the lobby area. We are looking at simply having stainless steel on the outside corners to protect them and offsetting the recessed area with a different color of paint. There will be some minor spackling needed to provide repairs with the walls.

We also discussed the change orders that I submitted to you in an email. It is important for you to respond to my email regarding the changes so not to delay the project.

Old Elementary

With the old elementary demolition, presently the abatement process is continuing.

Curriculum

PVASS

Mrs. Corle, Mrs. Hendershot, Mrs. Younker, Mrs. Cutchall, Mr. Leese, Mr. Breslin, and I have spent a day at the IU being trained by representatives from Department of Education regarding the PVASS information. This is an area we will provide a presentation to the board on.

Building Walkthroughs

Mrs. Corle, Mrs. Hendershot, Mrs. Younker and I have completed three walkthroughs, one at the high school, one at the elementary, and one with elementary special education. We had a high school special education walkthrough scheduled but found it necessary to cancel because of a situation that occurred that morning before the walkthrough.

High School Report

Clearfield County Festival by Dan Meredith

I would like to thank the administration and school board for supporting my participation as guest conductor of the Clearfield County High School Chorus Festival on October 26 & 28. It was an overwhelmingly positive experience. Many students went out of their way to thank me for conducting them. I received notes from two students indicating that it was a life changing event for them. I'm proud of the music we made, but even more grateful for the life lessons we took away from the event.

Judith Bungo, the host director, sent me the following note: "Thank you again so much for conducting our county festival. Our students really enjoyed everything and learned so much. We really appreciate all of your hard work and sharing your wealth of knowledge and talent with our students and us as well. It was truly my pleasure to welcome you back to Clearfield County and to Curwensville."

As guest conductor, it was most valuable to experience a festival from the other side of the music stand. My participation will aid me in preparing my own students for future festivals.

With sincerest thanks,

Dan Meredith

Elementary Report

PreK Survey

Surveys are available on the School District Website at www.sfsd.k12.pa.us for the proposed PreK program and before/after school care. An advertisement regarding the survey availability has been sent to the Fulton County News and The Hancock News. The advertisements are slated to run for the next three weeks.

Pennsylvania School Performance Profile and Student Learning Objectives

I presented information to the Elementary Faculty at our October meeting regarding the Pennsylvania School Performance Profile and Student Learning Objectives. Mr. Rupert presented information on early warning indicators for school dropout.

Reading Meetings

I held Reading Meetings with faculty on October 23, 2013 to discuss the following: progress of each group of students, enrichment opportunities, and remediation programs.

Federal Programs

The annual Comparability Report has been completed and will be submitted. This report is due to the Pennsylvania Department of Education by November 15, 2013.

Elementary Calendar of Events

November

1	Grade 4 to Harper's Ferry
7	Grade 3 Field Trip to Washington D.C.

11	Veteran's Day Assembly
12-15	PTA Santa Shop on the stage
12	National Young Reader's Day
15	Parent Luncheon
26	Parent Teacher Conferences (Regular School Day) Conferences 4 - 7:30p.m.
27	Parent Teacher Conferences (No School for Students) 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
28-Dec. 3	No School- Thanksgiving Vacation

Facilities Manager Report

School Truck

We replaced the oxygen sensor on the school truck, which solved it's running issues, and we replaced the older style (fuseless) adapter wiring harness that went bad that regulated the lights for plowing snow.

Elementary

After troubleshooting the elementary generator we discovered a low voltage sensor relay is defective and will be replaced, hopefully this is the only problem we will encounter. The elementary fire alarm smoke detectors servicing the library have been repaired and brought back on line.

OSHA Mandatory Staff Training

I became aware that OSHA's mandatory staff training for school districts on GHS (Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals) must be completed by December 1, 2013. I'm searching for a solution to the problem and will keep you informed.

Special Education Report

Van Transportation

Many conversations have taken place with the van contractor on what interventions can be used on transportation to ensure the safety of students while traveling.

Special Education Advisory Meeting

The meeting was changed from October 23rd to October 28th. I was unable to attend the meeting because of prior IEP meetings and pre-planned walk thru's for special education teachers. Also, I had another meeting at IU 11 on Tuesday and did not feel that I could be out of the district two days consecutively.

PVAAS Training

Attended a three hour training at the IU on how to fully utilized the new tools associated with PVAAS for making predictions on where students are expected to place on upcoming assessments, and how to pin point those individuals who will require special remediation to assist them in gaining skills in deficit areas.

Special Education Compliance Monitoring Training

Training was set up for October 29, 2013, but had to be switched to the 30th due to conflict of presenters. There was not enough substitutes available to cover the teachers to be able to continue with the training; therefore, the training will be re-scheduled for some time in January.

Medical Access Training

The business manager and I attended training at State College to hear the new changes that are anticipated to begin. At this time, the district does not have a lot of students who qualify for the school to bill MA for the following services: Physical Therapy, One on one paraprofessional, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Services, Hearing Impaired, and/or special transportation. The catch is in order to bill for transportation, students must have another related services the day they are transported. They can only assist with paying for transportation if they are receiving, another related services on the same day. Parents must provide information/consent for the school to bill for these services in order for the school to be permitted to bill. There are families who refuse to allow us to bill for services.

PASA

The deadline to enroll students who will be taking the alternative state testing (PASA) is approaching quickly; November 14th all students enrolled in the district will have to be enrolled for the alternative assessment, which means IEP Meetings will have to be held by all of these students in order to make the determination of which assessment is appropriate. The PASA has very specific criteria that must be met in order to be considered eligible. (Only one percent of the students Proficient and/or Advanced will be counted regardless of how many students qualify to take the PASA. Since AYP calculations are changing this too will change the status of how PASA testers will be held accountable or counted in the schools calculations.

Training on the Way

Based on many questions being posed concerning special education, there will be mini-modules presented as an effort to educate and inform those who want more information about the laws, guidelines, and how special education law has evolved into what it is today.

Keystone Exams

The latest information concerning Keystone Exams for students with IEP's. It will be an IEP team(s) decision as to whether or not the student needs to complete the Project Based Assessment, if they fail the Keystone Exam. Everyone must take the exam one time, but if it is written into the IEP that the student(s) only have to take it one time, that is all they will be required to take it. The IEP team will then decide what is appropriate for each particular student based on each individuals' needs. Essentially, what happens is the student will graduate on his/her IEP and not based on graduation requirements

Anita Munson

Superintendent/Board Secretary
Southern Fulton School District