

Administrative Bulletin to Board Members November 6, 2015

High School/Elementary Principal

Elementary Data Meetings

The first set of data meetings at the elementary school was held with the teachers in grades 3-6. In addition to the teachers assigned to those grade levels, in attendance was Mrs. Hendershot, Tim Miller from the Intermediate Unit, Mike Breslin (the 7th & 8th grade English teacher), Mrs. Ifert and Mrs. Cutchall. The purpose of these meetings is to present and analyze student data, attempting to locating gaps in curriculum and strengths that can be shared with other grade levels. From this initial meeting, it is evident that teachers need time to collaborate among themselves, as well as time to scaffold in order to determine what materials are being used at various grade levels. In an effort to increase communication and knowledge, the 6th grade team is going to the high school on Wednesday, November 11 to observe the Jr High English classes in the morning. This is the first step of many that will involve collaboration among the teachers and between schools. Also, there was a brief meeting with all teachers in grades K-2 to review the visit the 1st graders teachers conducted at Winter Street Elementary School in Hagerstown, Maryland. During this visit, the teachers witnessed several techniques they would like to incorporate into their classrooms to increase student engagement. They shared this information and we are going to make changes to the primary level classrooms.

PVAAS

Mrs. Hendershot, Mr. Breslin and Mr. Ickes attended the annual PVAAS training at the Intermediate Unit to review the current growth modules that are contained in the PVAAS (Pennsylvania Value Added Assessment System). This system was created as a method to measure student growth as displayed on the standardized assessments. This training was a "train the training" model which is why we included a teacher from each building to participate. Teachers that are involved with PVAAS are those in grades 4-8 and any teacher that teaches a Keystone Exam Course (Algebra I, Biology and Literature).

Curriculum Action Council

The monthly CAC meeting was held at the Intermediate Unit and there were a lot of updates concerning the waiver that PDE has submitted to the Federal Department of Education. At this point, teacher evaluations for the 2014-2015 school year are STILL on hold as PDE has not yet received word if the Teacher Effectiveness Model will be able to be used as part of the evaluation process.

Keystone Exams

The high school is gearing up for the Winter Keystone Exam window, which occurs in January. The annual training for district assessment coordinators was held with new updates to the assessments as well as protocols that must be followed prior to, during and after the testing. PDE is looking at a new system that may require school districts to manually upload all of the required documents prior to a site visit during testing. This is still in the pilot phase but may be implemented as soon as next year. Southern Fulton will have to develop a process in order to ensure these documents are uploaded to the proper documentation system on an annual basis.

Elementary Dean of Students

Report Cards

Report cards went home for the first marking period on Monday, Nov. 2, 2015.

Citizenship Reward

Those students with A's or B's in citizenship for the first marking period received a reward of going to the high school to watch the movie Duke. This was a Disney production where a dog inherits the late Duke Of Dingwall's (his master's) estate. Of course, in Disney style, the Duke's nephew is unhappy about this, so he schemes to attempt to steal the inheritance from the dog. The students seemed to enjoy the movie and they were excited about getting to visit the high school as part of the reward. The PTA generously paid for the cost of the busses.

CST Meetings

We had our second round of Child Study Team Meetings on Wednesday. This was a full day of meetings with parents, teachers, and the other members of the Child Study Team to discuss the concerns about particular students. Then, as a team, we chose strategies and interventions that the school and the parents can do to try to help the child be more successful in school and in life. We will work on implementing these strategies and interventions until we meet again in January to assess whether the plan is working.

3rd Grade Field Trip

The third grade went on their field trip to Washington, D.C. on Thursday, November 5, 2015.

High School Dean of Students

Halloween Dance

NHS held the annual Halloween dance on Friday, Oct 30. There were approximately 215 students in attendance. Almost all students were dressed in costume and the night was enjoyable for all.

Winter Physicals

Physicals for Winter Sports were completed on November 4th.

Photos

Club photos were taken on November 5th.