

Administrative Bulletin to Board Members

January 8, 2016

Superintendent Report

State Funding

This week we received approximately half of our State funding which amounts to slightly over 3 million. If the Republican Legislative Budget stands as is our total increase for the year will be approximately \$42,000. \$10,000 of that is allocated to the Block Grant. The Block Grant funds have been approved over the past years to provide full day Kindergarten with those funds paying teacher's salaries and benefits. This would mean there would be approximately \$32,000 to be used toward possible items on the wish list. This amount could increase once an educational budget has been adopted and approved.

Pre K Grant

We have received confirmation that we indeed did receive the Pre-Kindergarten Grant. The grant is good for the remainder of this year and the following two years. We will be attempting to get the Pre K started as soon as we can.

High School/Elementary Principal Report

Annual Keystone Exam Training

On Monday, January 4, 2016 the high school faculty participated in the annual Keystone Exam training. I led the training and it is required of all Keystone Exam Administrators. The training covers any updates from the Pennsylvania Department of Education in regards to the exams, common violations to avoid, procedures to be followed during unexpected breaks, and a review of the schedule is included.

Keystone Exams

The window for the Keystone Exams opened on Wednesday, January 6 and will close on Wednesday, January 20. During this time, students will be testing on Literature (January 6 & 7), Biology (January 11 & 12) and Algebra I (January 13 & 14). The make-ups for these exams will be held on January 8 (Literature), January 15 (Biology and Algebra I) and as needed until the window closes on Wednesday, January 20, 2016. These exams are administered electronically unless there is an exception via an IEP for paper/pencil exams.

Text Dependent Analysis Training

Tim Miller and Mike Breslin are conducting Text Dependent Analysis Training at the elementary school for teachers in grades 4-6. The trainings thus far have been extremely successful. The first part of the training involves instruction/explanations of TDAs, with the afternoon session being guided as hands-on in order for teachers to produce/develop TDA questions using materials they are currently utilizing. There is a follow-up data meeting on Wednesday, January 13 in order to gauge successes with students and identify challenges in order to continue making progress with the TDAs. TDAs account for 19% of the PSSA ELA scores for students in grades 4-8.

High School Dean of Students Report


High School News

2016 has started out very smoothly at the high school. The students returned rejuvenated from Christmas Break. The school looks great, as National Honor Society still has Christmas decorations around the school. The NHS is currently partnering with Student Council and Interact to prepare for next week's spirit week and homecoming festivities. Each day will feature a theme, and students will earn points for their classes. Friday will conclude the week with the annual Battle of the Students pep rally, at which the Spirit Cup will be awarded. The Homecoming Dance will follow on Saturday.

On Sunday, we will have a science fair at the high school. A student is sponsoring the event as her senior project. The students are very excited to participate.

Special Education Director Report

Special Education Notes:

- Information is being sent through BSE (Bureau of Special Education to support compliance with improvement plan from the last state monitoring)
- Mrs. Keiper, HS Resource Room Teacher – submitted a request to have donated hearing phones for computers and her request was awarded 
- Project Max Teacher Coaching is getting reading to begin as part of Project Max Pilot Program. Mrs. Shaw is the internal coach for the team.
- Mrs. Bard has assumed her duties as the special education secretary and is learning protocols associated with special education.
- Training for Medical Access is to be held at the IU on /4/16
- Diane Younker will be attending the PDE Conference in Hershey February 10 – 12 at her own expense.
- Mrs. Shaw will be attending the PDE Conference for one day in Hershey to obtain supports in carrying out the internal coaching for Project Max. Funding for the one day will come from the monies allotted to the district for agreeing to participate in Project Max.
- Project Max in school training will take place on 1/21/16 and 1/29/16 at the elementary school. 2/1/16 IU 11 staff will be in the district to train Mrs. Shaw on internal coaching to line up with Project Max standards.