

Southern Lehigh School District

Strategic Plan Report

To: School Board Members

From: Leah Christman, Assistant Superintendent

Date: January 24, 2011

Academic Proficiency:

- AP-1 The initial data review of the 4Sight benchmark exams delivered to SLIS students shows very good growth between assessment #1 and assessment #2. Such progress would suggest that our students are making appropriate gains toward mastery of the content that would appear on the PSSA (as the 4Sight is aligned with the state assessment).
- AP-1 Closer review by Mrs. Farris of the 2010 IS PSSA Data:
 - 4th grade scored within the top 17% of schools in the state in the Advanced category.
 - 4th grade scored within the top 19% of schools in the state in the Advanced/Proficient categories combined.
 - 5th grade scored within the top 17% of schools in the state in the Advanced category.
 - 5th grade scored within the top 23% of schools in the state in the Advanced/Proficient categories combined.
 - 6th grade scored within the top 6% of schools in the state in the Advanced category.
 - 6th grade scored within the top 9% of schools in the state in the Advanced/Proficient categories combined.
- AP-1 IS Teachers and staff were trained and presented with data and information using EdInsight and PSSA analysis in an effort to help focus grade level instruction in specific eligible content and academic standards prior to the administration of PSSAs in March.
- AP-1/HQT-4/5: Liberty Bell's Core Data Team will be meeting the afternoon of January 28th to discuss our plan for the rest of this year, look at our latest data from DIBELS (both math and reading), last year's 3rd Grade PSSA Data, and start thinking about our plan for next year and more as this team evolves.
- AP-1 /HQ-4/5 Lower Milford's Building level data teams completing mid-year data collection and review (DIBELS (grades 1-3), Oral Reading Fluency, ELAs (grades 1-2), Soudy assessment (grade 1). Additional assessments were identified because of data indicating greater needs than usual in grade 1 reading.
- AP-2/HQT-3 SAP/Cyber-Safety – Four MS/HS teachers have been SAP trained by Lehigh County at no cost to the district
- AP-2 New HS student clubs are forming on a regular basis as students express interest, and HS Student Advisory Council met on 1/13/11
- AP-2 HS Musical *Annie* tickets will go on sale in February. The Musical will be held March 3-6, 2011
- AP3/ IC4- Hosted an informational meeting for parents of students currently enrolled in Cyber School. Representatives from VLN were on campus to provide an overview of offerings. Informal commitment from one parent for a return in the 2011-2012 school year.
- AP3, 6,,8 / HQT-1 - NATIONAL LAB DAY/ NETWORK – High School Science Teachers have signed up to participate in National Lab Network which provides for a variety of hand-on science activities: www.nationallabday.org
- AP-8/ HQT-4: Hopewell's schedule has been set for school wide DIBELS and math and reading common assessment for the next 2 weeks (behind due to inclement weather)
- AP-11 Information received recently from National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) -180 of our 4th grade students have been selected for participation in February testing.

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** Note: The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP**) is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas. Assessments are conducted periodically in mathematics, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, and U.S. history.

Improved Communications:

- IC-1/IC-5 HR Dept. posted Collective Bargaining Agreement, Act 93 Compensation Plan and eight Employee Wage and Benefit policies on Moodle site of CLIU (SLSD made the suggestion originally to IU HR Committee members to establish an easily researched "library" of these documents. Other Districts under IU 21 are following suit.)
- IC-1/IC-5 Numerous emails have been sent to HS and MS parents to keep them apprised of the mid-term exam schedule and the many revisions that have been made due to snow days.
- IC-1/IC-5 HR Dept. sent Letter of Intent electronically to all employees (formerly paper): est. savings in both materials and hours by HR and all formerly participating secretarial staff.
- IC-1/ IC-5 Sapphire kick-off for building leadership teams will be held Jan. 27.
- IC-1, IC-2, IC-5 All 4th and 5th grade parents will have access to the Power School parent portal as of January 10, 2011.
- IC-1/ IC-5 Efforts to promote electronic communications have been implemented at the EAC meeting. Cabinet level administrators now have access to update the Superintendent throughout the month on agenda items.
- IC-4 – New Weighted Grade Committee – includes parents, students, teachers, admin, board member: First meeting postponed for weather will occur Jan. 26 at 3:30 PM
- IC-4 SLIS teachers are to mentor 6 student teachers from DeSales University, Alvernia College and Moravian College this spring. Most student teachers will be working with SLIS staff from January to March 2011.
- IC -5: Forming a k-3 report card committee to explore options for improvement. First meeting scheduled on Tuesday, January 25th, from 12:45 P.M.-3:45 P.M.
- IC-6/IC-5 BlackBoard Connect continues to be used successfully for weather delays and closings and well as specific building information and daily attendance
- IC – 7 A final conversation was held with Dottie Bollinger on the update of our AUP. Many new technologies, including social networking, will be addressed in the new revision.
- IC – 8- K12 Systems was on campus to meet with the key members of the implementation team for Sapphire. Plans were made for the rollout meeting and ftp login and passwords were shared for migration of data. K12 representatives shared that CLIU has moved data into the new site as of 1.20.11.

Highly Qualified Staff:

- HQT-1 – Columbia University Reading and Writing Project – March, 2011 Several teachers have signed up to attend at regionally sponsored Saturday trip to Columbia.
- HQT-1 / AP-1 – Career Pathways Teacher Meetings - Great PD opportunity for the Lehigh/Carbon County Teachers. They have been receiving updated information on keystones/Common Cores/CDT's and Graduation Requirements. In addition, they have received training on Webs Depth of Knowledge and have opportunities to share. We have had teams of teachers participate in the following meetings- 10/21 – HS Science; 10/26 – Math; 10/28 – MS Science; 11/4 – MS Language Arts; 11/16 – HS Language Arts; 1/5 – HS Social Studies; 2/16 – MS Social Studies

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- HQT – 1 - Elementary Principals developed a presentation for their teachers on the PSSA for 2011 at their Elementary Principal meeting.
- HQT-1/HQT-4– In-service conducted on 1/17-oriented teachers of PSSA testing grades to the 2011 PSSA test blueprint. Also, teachers were engaged in subject area curriculum planning and development and an overview of Common Core Standards and proposed changes from PDE. Instructional assistants were provided with a workshop on managing and supporting positive student behavior outcomes.
- HQT- 3/5 Administrators are working in committee (Principals and CO Admin) to explore improving our teacher supervision program. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Directors of Elementary and Secondary education are also participating in a 3-day seminar with Robert Marzano on this topic. Teachers have been surveyed for their input.
- HQT-5: Hopewell is holding grade level data meetings with all grade level reps to roll out new data collection forms.
- HQ-1/ IC-5 Professional development was provided to the Support Services department on the use of Google calendars as part of our Spartandocs site. They will collaborate to set reminders for contract renewals and reoccurring services. HQT-5 IC – 1
- HQ-1/5 professional development provided for district secretaries on the new Office 2010 and Spartandocs.