

Southern Lehigh School District

Strategic Plan Report

To: School Board Members

From: Leah Christman, Assistant Superintendent

Date: September 27, 2010

Academic Proficiency:

- AP-1 All schools achieved AYP for 2009-2010: Proficiency rates as follows:
 - HW – Math 91%, Reading 86.5%
 - LB – Math 92.3%, Reading 89%
 - LM – Math 86.8%, Reading 84.9%
 - IS- Math 92%, Reading 85%
 - MS – Math 89.3%, Reading 91.2%
 - HS – Math 71.7%, Reading 78.9%
- AP-1 Preliminary Science PSSA results are posted on the PDE website:
 - IS- Grade 4 Science 96% as a comparison: (EPSD= 89.3%/ PASD= 90.4%)
 - MS- Grade 8 Science 82.2% as a comparison: (EPSD= 70.8%/ PASD= 74.7%)
 - HS – Grade 11 Science 54.1% as a comparison: (EPSD=53.4% / PASD= 55.5%)
- AP-1/8: We are participating in the Keystone and CDT exam pilots as required by PDE. Exams are administered to students who completed the courses.

(Classroom Diagnostic Tools - The Pennsylvania Department of Education is in the process of developing on-line classroom diagnostic assessments for reading, mathematics, science, and social studies. The diagnostic assessments will be available for students in grade 6 through high school. The math assessments will be field tested in May 2010 and will be available for use in the fall of 2010. The other content areas will be phased in between December 2010 and September 2011.)

- MS – Grade 7 CDT (236 students) and voluntary 11 students participating in Alg. I Keystone
 - HS – 236 Bio CDT and 223 Chemistry CDT
 - 321 students on-line Literature Keystone
 - 322 students paper/pencil Literature Keystone
 - CDT Window – Oct 4-29. Must be taken on-line – 45-50 minutes in length
 - Keystone Window – November 1-19
- AP-2: Liberty Bell Elementary School unveiled their new slogan...*Liberty Bell...a place of learning, caring, and sharing with one another*
 - AP-2- Middle School activities have included: Patriot Day Observance, NJHS Luncheon meeting, Teen Counselor meeting, Student Dance.
 - AP-2: SLIS continues building community and culture this year. Of particular focus at SLIS in 10-11 is growing staff understanding SWPBS (School-Wide Positive Behavior Support), and beginning some basic SWPBS ideas school wide with weekly lessons focusing on the Spartan Rs are being delivered to all students/classes by teachers (these lessons focus on what it means to be respectful, responsible, rule abiding, and ready for school), lunch bunch groups meet periodically to build peer relationships and promote student community and friendship and regular parent volunteers service the IS by working on the library and copy committees.
 - AP-2: Freshman Orientation and Rush took place at the HS on 9/2/10 and many of the students signed up for clubs/activities at this event. Several new student initiated clubs are starting for the 2010-11 school year.
 - AP-3 /and AP-6: SLIS's building data team is studying the results of PSSA and will provided insight to the rest of the staff such that instructional adjustments and ideas could be considered: RtII, IST and CST teams (Response to Intervention and Instruction, Instructional Support Team, and Child Study Team) and regular meetings of these teams to monitor student data and progress in grades 4, 5 and 6.
 - AP-3 /and AP-6: Several teachers at the High School in the Math, Art, Science and English departments have administered their first pre/post test in moving forward with the data teams process.
 - AP-3 and AP-8 and HQT-1– 8/11 –Changes in gifted research and science integration have been implemented at the Middle School to include a push-in model to the science classes to enrich the science experience of the gifted students. Gifted students will also address their research paper in an integrated manner. This represents an expansion from gifted needs met through language arts to gifted students through language arts and science.
 - AP-3: ESL Schedules are being finalized and Universal screening is taking place at the K – 6 buildings to develop the intervention schedule.

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- **AP-6:** New digital literacy course, "Tech Smartz" for students in Grades 1-3 has had a successful start. Interest and enthusiasm from parents and students is high. Feedback from parents at Open House was very positive.
- **AP-8:** Once per cycle, common grade level EF period (Enrichment and Focus) will be restructured this year so that when music students go to Chorus and Band/Orchestra, all non-music students in the grade level will be assigned to a rotation of enrichment instruction provided by specialists. The benefits of this new rotation will be 1) a 30 minute common planning meeting time for grade level core teachers once every 6 days, and 2) Instructional enrichment opportunities for students in music, art, STEM, Design 21, PE, library and guidance and computers.
- **AP-10/ AP-11/AP-5:** Student attendance and participation in state assessments exceeded the 95% benchmark for 2010-2011. Graduation rate at 97.1% also exceeded the 85% benchmark.

Improved Communications:

- **IC-1:** Teachers have been reminded to update web pages for the 10-11 school year.
- **IC-1:** The Distribution Lists were updated to reflect improved consistency and accuracy this year.
- **IC-1:** The first edition of the district newsletter has been posted and stakeholders informed via e-mail.
- **IC-2:** 2010-2011 SLIS 4th and 5th grade report card is being revised for this year; 6th grade parents have been given access to the parent portal of Power School and plans are in the works to open portal access to parents of grade 4 and 5 students later this year.
- **IC-4:** Advertisement for community involvement in the Act 48 Committee and the HS- GPA, Weighted Grades, AP Committee are currently on the website. The first Act 48 committee meeting is October 6th from 4:00 – 5:30. HS GPA, Weighted Grades Committee meeting dates will be set after Oct.6. BlackBoard connect messages were also sent for both.
- **IC-4:** Liberty Bell PTA hosted its annual Spring Festival Friday, and the Hoover Karate Academy presented Stranger Danger assembly to LB students on Friday, June 11, 2010.
- **IC-4:** All schools have completed successful Open House events.
- **IC-4:** Letters will be mailed to parents of students grades 7-12 with the mid-marking period reports to inform them that we will go 'paper-less' with this information. Parents will be reminded to check Power School in the future for this information. Any parent without access will continue to be provided with paper copies.
- **IC- 4- SLEF had a successful Tri-Biathalon.**
 - There were 60 participants (majority from grades 4-6, which was the target group; several MS and HS students)
 - Volunteers included organizers-Jennifer Wescoe Schaninger and Trish Colasurdo, SLEF members, parent volunteers
 - There was an incredible amount of assistance from Upper Saucon Township (Bob Cassel, Tom Beil, Chief Coyle, fire department, ambulance corp) in planning and on the day of the event.
 - Custodians, grounds crew assisted (even coming in at 5AM to go over any last minute details)
 - Lisa Moser, Gretchen Hoff, Dianna Riegel (Teachers) planned and ran the Obstacle course for younger children at the stadium
 - Several teacher mentors Lisa Moser, Dianna Riegel, Angela Fulmer
 - HS Cross Country Team members, Key Club student volunteers, Girl Scout Daisy troop assisted and encouraged participants
 - 16 Sponsors
 - 10 In kind sponsors
 - Appearance and welcome by Nicole Machalik ("Biggest Loser" contestant)
 - Not sure of the amount raised at this point...probably more of a break even...but for a first year event...definitely a success for the entire SLSD community!
 - Plan for the 2nd annual TBC already underway!
- **IC- 6** All buildings continue to use BlackBoard Connect and Web Site to communicate events.

Highly Qualified Teachers:

- **HQT-1:** Read 180 Day 1training was held on September 21st for teachers who are new to the program. There will be a follow up training in 6 weeks as well as coaching days.
- **HQT-1:** HS Business Department teachers received training on iSupport Learning simulation software and all members of the department completed a Dreamweaver on-line course.
- **HQT-1:** LB reading specialist provided two trainings the first two weeks of school. The first, an update on the new DIBELS data tracking used to monitor students' reading progress and second, training focused on EAROBICS, an intervention used at the elementary level.
- **HQT-1** Middle School PD included-

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- 1 Professional staff member participated in BSN Conference
- 2 Professional staff members participated in Modern Language Conference
- 2 Professional staff participated in Health/PE Conference
- 2 Professional Staff members participated in CLIU TV Studio User Group Conference
- HQT-2/4: Liberty Bell kicked off its School-Wide Positive Behavior System (SWPBS) with an assembly on the first day back. Our new positive reinforcement program is called the Pride of Liberty Bell.
- HQT-2: Lower Milford teachers and key staff met for an academy in August to continue professional growth and planning related to the behavior component of the RtII model. Those who attended the statewide RtII conference in June shared with LM faculty key research and information related to school wide positive behavior programs. We used an assessment tool to evaluate the new program implemented in the 2009-10 year, then used that evaluation to make further improvement to our plan for the 2010-11 year.
- HQT-1/IC-5: A business machine and document trainer from Edwards Business Machines was available at SLIS all day on 9/21 offer advanced training on the Konica-Minolta 950 document center. Teachers learned how to send documents via laptop to the document center and direct the center to produce according to their specifications.
- HQT-4: Building Data Teams (Teachers and Principals) will be trained on the Data Team process by Ray Smith, National Consultant for Doug Reeve's Learning and Learning Center. 29 elementary teachers will be trained on Oct.19 and 22 secondary teachers on Oct.20.
- HQT-5: All administrators will receive 6 days of training on iObservation by Ray Smith, National Consultant for Doug Reeve's Learning and Learning Center during the year. Day one is scheduled Oct.18.
- HQT-5: Middle School attended "Legal training for Administrators" PD.