

# Southern Lehigh School District

## Strategic Plan Report

To: School Board Members

From: Leah Christman, Assistant Superintendent

Date: September 26, 2011

### **Academic Proficiency:**

- AP 1.1- PSSA data and PVASS data has been reviewed and by SLIS staff. The data show strong performance that not only meets AYP, but reflects continuous growth and improvement in our students.
- AP 2.1, 2.3, 2.5 The PBS or SWPBS (School Wide Positive Behavior System) continues to take shape and grow at SLIS. This year, the school is adorned with behavior reminder posters connecting the citizenship/behavior ideals to the Spartan Rs (respectful, responsible, ready and rule abiding). Further, the staff is randomly awarding Sparkens (Spartan tokens) to students demonstrating excellent Spartan R behavior. The Sparkens can be redeemed for school store items or reward time/privilege such as a homework pass, extra recess with the principals, or lunch with teacher, etc. The PBS committee continues to work hard to track and refine our school-wide plan and citizenship program. IS Students are recognized daily/weekly with Sparkens for positive behavior/citizenship as part of our PBS school wide model.
- AP-2.1, 2.5, 2.6 HW CARES meeting occurred to build a positive culture. We have established a technology reward system in the cafeteria to encourage positive behaviors at lunch using CARES bucket-filling compliments. Each Friday a student will be rewarded in the cafeteria with extra technology time on an iPod for good behavior in the cafeteria
- AP-2.1- LB teachers are currently teaching their classes our school-wide behavior expectations in all common areas of the school. This is part of our School-wide Positive Behavior System, the *Pride of Liberty Bell*.
- AP2.2 Parent-Teacher Groups are established and have met.
- AP2.5: Schools recognized Patriot Day by wearing red, white and blue or our Hopewell T-shirt
- AP-2.5: HW Held CARES assembly to welcome students back to school, build community, read "Have you filled a Bucket today?"
- AP-2.5: Sensei Rob Wetmore from Leading Edge Martial Arts presented a martial arts assembly to HW students on safety, self-defense and bullying to kick off the school year.
- AP2.5: HW Held a Jr. Spirit Committee meeting to establish some dates for school spirit day
- AP3.1 The BOC cycle or "special-special" rotation has again been initiated at SLIS this year to achieve subject/grade level common planning time once every 6 days.
- AP-3.2, 3.4, 3.5, 3.13, 3.14,: The Spanish Immersion Team (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>) meets on Wednesday, September 28, at Liberty Bell Elementary to improve their communication and consistency regarding curriculum, instructional practices, assessments, etc.
- AP 3.2 – HS CDT Testing will take place in October in the following courses: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Biology I, and Literature.
- AP3.2 Student performance is being monitored continuously through teachers, the Response to Intervention Team, grade book inspection and review of universal testing data at the elementary level.
- AP 3.2 – K – 6 buildings conducted baseline benchmarking assessments on all students.

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- AP-3.5 – Data on Keystone exams is currently being analyzed at the HS by exam, student grade in course and teacher. This will be used to determine any correlations with student performance on the Keystone exams in Spring of 2011.
- AP-3.5: LB's Core Data Team met on Tuesday, September 20, and will meet again the following week to finalize our school's goal(s) for the 2011-2012 school year. We will also be finalizing our plan of action for our grade level teams as well.
- AP3.10 Gifted students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade have been grouped for daily contact through their assignment In Language Arts/Reading. Students in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade receive pull-out and push-in services.
- AP 3.10 – Teachers of the gifted met for a workshop with Atty. Faust to learn more about how the changes to the Gifted Guidelines and how to write appropriate GIEP goals.
- AP-6.3 Second grade is using a wiki in their classroom to discuss their reading
- AP-6.3, IC 1.5 Teachers have been working hard to update websites and make accessible to parents and students more information and resources on-line. Further, teachers continue to make regular and hard use of laptops, iPods, iPads and Smartboards for instructional purposes.
- AP 8.1 – Revisions were completed on the Tech Smarts curriculum and are being presented to the education committee.
- AP-8.1,8.4 IS Teachers have been provided reminder information and resources to access Gold Seal lesson templates. A building goal this year is to work to incorporate at a higher level connected or associated lessons cross-curricularly.
- AP-8.1 Conservation District and Cougles Recycling visited the MS during the week of Sept. 18 to observe lunch. During the first visit all opportunity was identified in post meal and they suggested entering into recycling into the curriculum. Our Director of Secondary Education is working to introduce into curriculum and place the recycling in the classroom or training. There is also discussion on district wide recycling that is in place and staff and students need additional training.
- AP10.1- Attendance rates are being met and monitored.

### **Improved Communications:**

- IC-1 Open House occurred to share information with parents about our school and this year's curriculum and instructional program.
- IC 1.4 – Discussions were held at HS Guidance Meeting about information being shared with seniors relative to the college process. Counselors will be sharing the timeline that they currently use for disseminating information and how that takes place. Suggestions were made for making the information more readily available to parents/students. Counselors will refine their process and document.
- IC1.5 Teachers are working to improve flow and increase in information available to students and parents using teacher websites.
- IC 1.5 The District and school websites have been updated to provide continuous information and updates to our parent and global community. A new look with easier navigation has been developed.
- IC2 IS Fall and spring tentative parent's conference appointments are in scheduling process.
- IC-2.1 All grade level & subject departments have been asked to meet to review grading practices and reach consensus regarding grading procedures.

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- IC-2.1 SLIS administration has been working with Sapphire to monitor the roll-over of report card information.
- IC-4: Working with Desales, Muhlenberg, and West Chester University as we have several student teachers among our three K-3 buildings..
- IC-5.1 A paperless facilities committee meeting has been developed. Power point or Acrobat is being utilized for the meetings. This should assist in demonstration and understanding of the members.
- IC-6.1 The BlackBoardConnect announcement system is used by IS and MS for daily attendance contacts. It was used in September in the following ways:
  - to remind parents of Back to School night
  - to send teacher message to parents of Spanish Immersion students
  - to relay parent conference sign-up information
- IC-6 HW used electronic communication system to communicate to parents our spirit days
- IC-7 The SLIS handbook has been updated for 2011-2012 and is maintained continuously on the district website. Pertinent information also appears in printed fashion in student agenda books.

### Highly Qualified Staff:

- HQ 1.1—Successful professional development day for K – 6 teachers that focused on implementation of the Common Core Standards, the new student information system and the new Math series as appropriate.
- HQ 1.1- There will be a whole day of Compass Learning training at the Intermediate School Thursday, September 29, for our K-3 building tech facilitators and our RtII teachers.
- HQ 1.1 One of our Tech Facilitators led a workshop on the afternoon of Wednesday, September 21, for LB teachers who have new Smart Boards in their classrooms. The workshop provided the teachers the skills and knowledge necessary to begin integrating the Smart Board into their daily instruction.
- HQ 1.3 Teachers have submitted professional goals tied to building goals for 11-12 and communicated their supervision selection if appropriate
- HQ-4.1 Selected staff is completing a training session to share information on completing the new Sapphire elementary report card.
- HQ 4.1 Beginning year anchoring and inter-rater reliability writing scoring dates have been established for each grade level as IS LA/reading department staff work together.
- HQ-1.1, 1.2, 1.3,1.7,3.2, 3.3 SLIS is beginning implementation of the new math series adopted across grades 4-6. SLIS is piloting a new Science series. The following SLIS goals were shared with all staff for 2011-2012. Individual teacher goals are to connect with building/district goals.
  1. **Gold seal/quadrant D lessons** – creation and sharing of lessons that use themes and incorporate real life application of concepts learned across all grade level subjects.
  2. **Technology integration in learning and increasing communication using technology:**
    - a. Increased emphasis in using technology meaningfully and regularly in all classrooms and across all subjects, including use of document

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cameras, Smartboards, laptops, iPods, iPads, InterwriteMobis, CPS systems and web based tools.

- b. Every teacher is required to have a website with the following minimal information:

- ✓ links to textbook websites
- ✓ link to Spartan Rs page on SLIS site
- ✓ classroom daily/weekly schedule
- ✓ appropriate level curriculum links (homework help, games, resources)

Every teacher/team is requested to increase communication between school and home by using their website space to:

- ✓ post a calendar with important events and assignment information / due dates
- ✓ create links and attachments for important assignment / project rubrics, directions and work pages
- ✓ post study guides
- ✓ post short news briefs or newsletters alerting parents to what is up and coming

3. **Improving writing across the curriculum** – increase writing practice in every subject by developing regular writing activities focusing on Informational (expository), Persuasive and Narrative types.

- **Advancing PBS – (school-wide) positive behavior support** – knowledge, implementation and daily communication promoting a PBS culture

- HQ 3.1 An IS faculty meeting was held on September 21 to share among all Sapphire troubleshooting and personal discoveries. SLIS teachers will continue to use this model in an effort to grow together in knowledge and use of this new student management software.
- HQ-4.1 RTII – Teachers are working together on data review and identification of students qualifying for reading and math interventions
- HQ 5.1 Staff working toward additional supervisory and other certifications continues to be supported in their coursework/study and provided on-site guidance and opportunity to practice.