



Superintendent's Report

To: Board Members

From: Leah M. Christman

Date: October 14, 2013

- Oct 14 was an in-service day for teachers and workshops were presented by Discovery Education and engaged teachers in a deeper understanding about Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK) and classroom strategies to increase thinking to higher levels. Within the context of PA Core Standards, teachers worked in teams by content area and grade level to plan activities to apply the learning. DOK activities involve the following four levels: (see [http://www.slsd.org/files/filesystem/7. DOK Compared with Blooms Taxonomy.pdf](http://www.slsd.org/files/filesystem/7_DOK%20Compared%20with%20Blooms%20Taxonomy.pdf)) for a chart comparing Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning with Webb's DOK)
 - Level 1 = Recall
 - Level 2 = Skill/Concept
 - Level 3 = Strategic Thinking
 - Level 4 = Extended Thinking
- School Performance Profile scores were released publically last week. Our scores are posted as follows:
 - HS- 90 (incomplete data- will be updated by January). This score does not include our PVAAS data, which was inaccurate, and we asked to be corrected. We expect this score to go down slightly as a result of the corrections.
 - MS- 89.3
 - IS- 93.8
 - HW- 89.4
 - LB- 90.7
 - LM- 82.5
- <http://paschoolperformance.org/435/Schools> - PA score site-Visit for more details on the scores.
- <http://www.slsd.org/academics.cfm?subpage=1767274> - Our website – more information on how scores are calculated.
- Our high school is an evacuation site for Limerick Power Plant. In the event that there was some type of disaster at the plant our high school would be utilized to accept people. As part of this the Limerick plant in conjunction with PEMA and local EMA conduct a drill. As part of this drill they practice accepting a “patient”

and screening for radiological contamination. We have been informed that the drill will take place on November 20, 2013 from 7 PM to 9 PM in the HS. Activities have been rearranged to accommodate the drill.

- Mrs. Lewis and I participated in the Lehigh University School Study Council's Study Tour in Cambridge, Mass., during the last week on September. Along with area administrators, we visited Boston University and Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (Cambridge city public high school), which dates back to 1648. We attended sessions at Boston University on the new educator evaluations driven by the NCLB waivers and data informed decisions impacting student achievement. Our visit to CRLS provided an understanding of a different high school structure. CRLS is divided into small learning communities and is one of the most racially diverse schools in the US with students from over 83 countries represented. The school is known for its programs including the arts, career /technical education, and athletics.
- Our CO Admin Educational Administrators are participating in a 5 series webinar training- *Implementing School Improvement Initiatives: A Closer Look*: scheduled for October 2 through November 20, presented by the Center for High Performing Schools at SEDL (formerly Southwest Educational Development Laboratory.) SEDL is a nonprofit education research, development, and dissemination organization based in Austin, Texas. Improving teaching and learning has been at the heart of SEDL's work for almost 50 years. This training focuses on *Measuring Implementation in Schools Innovation Configuration, Stages of Concern, and Measuring Levels of Use*. As we continue to work toward transforming our schools to 21st century learning, we hope these measures will aid in our evaluation of implementation.
- Mrs. Takacs and Mrs. Siegfried attended a workshop at Lehigh University called *High-Stakes Technology Decisions to Change the Way Your Students Learn*. Panelists from Parkland, Saucon Valley, and Salisbury shared how technology is empowering student success in their schools from 1:1 programs beginning in middle school, to e-book readers and open campuses. Scott Garrigan, from Lehigh University shared information on MOOC's (Massive Open Online Courses) free courses from schools such as from Stanford, Harvard, MIT, U. Penn, Princeton, and Penn State that provide great opportunity for personalizing learning for middle and high school students.
- I attended a workshop at PASA on Oct. 10: *Improving Personal Productivity through the Use of Technology*. The session focused on transforming teaching and learning to 21st century models and how technology can be leveraged to enhance student success and school administrative efficiencies. Models used for professional development were shared including [SAMR](#), [TPACK](#) and the [Padagogy Wheel](#). Applications were shared that administrators can use to enhance organization, collaboration, and time management.