



Superintendent's Report

To: Board Members

From: Leah M. Christman

Date: March 24, 2014

- As you may know by now, at the end of February, Southern Lehigh school district was again named one of the top 30 places to work in the Lehigh Valley. All employees were invited to participate in a free survey sponsored by the morning call last fall. Questions revolved around organizational health, engagement, and working conditions. Companies are categorized by size for the recognition. Southern Lehigh is considered a medium-sized organization. For-profit and nonprofit organizations were included in the awards. We were one of two K-12 organizations recognized. This recognition is a testament to the positive culture and partnerships that exist throughout our learning and extended community. Employees were treated to celebratory cake after the announcement.
- Mrs. Siegfried and I attended a two day workshop in Reston Virginia last week. The workshop focused on 1:1 implementation and how to ensure continuous improvement. We were able to work with Dr. Ruben Puentedura, (<http://www.nmc.org/ruben-puentedura-board-member>) the creator of the SAMR (substitution, augmentation, modification, redefinition) model we are using, and Dr. Damien Bebell, (http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/research/csteep/faculty_staff/Bebell.html) a psychometrician from Boston College who has been studying the impact of 1:1 environments for over a decade. The workshop was very worthwhile and we brought back multiple activities and information we will share with our administrators and staff.
- One of our HS Students, Naomi L. is a candidate for the student position on the PA State Board of Education. She will be interviewed April 5.
- Area superintendents from Carbon/Lehigh and Colonial Intermediate Units met with local legislators on March 13 to discuss educational concerns. Topics included special education funding and related issues; charter school funding, performance, and related issues; and State budgeting.