



Superintendent's Report

To: Board Members

From: Leah M. Christman

Date: March 12, 2012

- Andria Buchman, our new Special Education Director has officially started as of last week and Morag Christie-Churm finished her consulting last Friday. I want to thank Morag who jumped in to help us out when we were without a Director. Her work was thorough, insightful and Andria is in a great place starting out due to her efforts.
- PSSA Exams begin tomorrow. All schools have been gearing up to help prepare students with test taking strategies and practice. There was a piece in the Morning Call and the High School made the 6:00 ABC Channel 6 Evening News on their boot camp. Mr Ryan Haupt was featured with his students.
- We learned that Southern Lehigh High School has been selected to participate in RAISE: Reading Apprenticeship Improving Secondary Education grant submitted by Mrs. Takacs. We are part of RAISE Cohort II. The grant was very competitive and more schools were turned away than accepted. Teachers involved have agreed to attend 10 days of PD (8 days during the summer and 2 days in Feb.) as well as monthly team meetings.
- SLEF is holding its 6th annual Ladies Night Out at Melt on March 28th from 7-9pm. Registration forms are at the board members' seats this evening.
- Support Services department has moved into Central Office in the area formerly occupied by Special Education. Dr. Donahue can now reclaim the classroom space for teachers and students. We have shuffled offices and everyone is now settled in their spaces.
- The Middle School space, formerly used for metal shop was been refurbished at minimal costs – a few cans of paint for the walls, and was showcased as the open mic coffee house at last week's Academic Showcase. This space provides agility to transform into for a variety of uses. (Discussion at Facilities Meetings previously projected costs in the \$300,000 plus range with more extensive renovations).