

Southern Lehigh School District

Strategic Plan Report

To: School Board Members

From: Leah Christman, Assistant Superintendent

Date: March 22, 2010

Academic Proficiency:

- AP 2: Anti-Bullying Programs were presented to all 8th and 9th grades students.
- AP-2: A Spartans of the Week program is underway to build a SLIS school-wide positive culture. The first of several students recognized for out of the ordinary positive behavior were quietly given pats on the back and a certificate in the office. The student names offered as Spartans of the Week are noticed for the extraordinary, not necessarily the expected. For example: a student turned in a \$10.00 bill from the lunchroom figuring it was lost money. Another was overheard through our intercom system saying "Let me get the door for you. Your hands are full," to a peer entering the building, etc.
- AP-2, AP-3, AP-7, AP-8, HQT-3 IC-4: The first SLIS student newspaper has been printed and distributed.
- AP-2, AP-3, AP-8, HQT-1, HQT-4: HS Administration met with each dept. at the HS to discuss midterm data analysis and how teachers use data to drive instruction in their classrooms. They had excellent discussions and tried to "connect all of the pieces".
- AP-2 /IC-4: High School Dance for Haiti was put on by Student Council in order to raise awareness and funds for the victims of the earthquake. Over \$3,000 was raised by the student body.
- AP-2/IC-4: All Buildings participated in a variety of activities to raise thousands of dollars to help support the victims of the Haiti Earthquake.
- AP-3 (also relates to AP-4): As a result of data team meetings and decisions at Lower Milford, our IST has planned an "extended day" opportunity for three kindergarten students. The students will attend for an additional hour. During that time, they will participate in two interventions (ERI and Earobics). They will then be able to participate in the full kindergarten session (prior to this, they were pulled from Kindergarten for ERI). Program will begin March 15.
- AP-3 /AP-6: A meeting was held with Michael Kuhn from Compass Learning to discuss the progress of Compass Learning in the classroom. K-3 buildings are enjoying a great deal of success and have had positive trainings. The IS continues to use compass effectively but struggled with a new trainer this year. Michael has been reassigned to that building and will be contacting Mary Farris to arrange training after PSSAs. Tech Facilitators along with Michael Pauling will be invited to participate in a day long training to assist in implementing compass in the classrooms.
- AP-3: Special Education staff are preparing for ESY (Extended School Year) instruction
- AP-6 / AP-8: Mark Losey for ALEKS, a math software program agreed to provide 125 free license to the HS Math teachers as a pilot. Teachers were encouraged to seek grant funding for next year through our District Mini grant program
- AP 6: 8th grade Design 21 students presented at an International MAGPI Video-Conference on their Haiti project
- AP-6: Hopewell participated in 2 Videoconferences. Mrs Schafer's 3rd grade and Mrs. Sterret's 1st grade students joined Mrs. Orlando's for a conference. Also, Hopewell teachers are utilizing podcasting and video to support learning in their classrooms.
- AP-6/ AP-8: Mrs. Moyer (LB) and Mrs. Schafer (HW) are planning to collaborate using iChat with their classrooms.
- AP-6/HQT-1/5: Liberty Bell's Mrs. Milliman will be attending a conference in VA 3/19 and 3/20 on Therapeutic Listening to provide another tool to support our students with special needs. We anticipate getting this up and running at Liberty Bell over the next few months.
- AP-8: The IS music department is working toward Songfest participation and preparation for out Spring Vocal and Spring Instrumental music concerts.
- AP – 8: The elementary Math textbook adoption committee continues to meet to decide the direction that we want to take with selecting a new textbook. A pilot is scheduled to begin after the PSSA is over
- AP-3/ AP-8: HS Spring Musical "Curtains" completed March 21.

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Improved Communications:

- IC-1/HQT-1: The Tech Dept. established an internal social network (<http://slsdconnect.ning.com>) for teachers to share technology ideas. This was established prior to the PETE&C conference to allow teachers to share “live at the conference” as the attended sessions. Plans are to grow this into a portal for teacher collaboration and sharing district-wide.
- IC-1: The electronic information system has been used to send the following: Total messages sent in February: 49 Outreach: 20 Attendance: 28 Emergency: 1 Survey: 0; Total messages sent so far in March: 33 Outreach: 5 Attendance: 28 Emergency: 0 Survey: 0. There has been a 92% average successful delivery rate both months.
- IC-2: Parent-teacher conferences and Kindergarten registration are scheduled for the week of March 22nd.
- IC-4- SLEF Ladies Night Out is scheduled for Wed. March 24 – 7:00 PM at Melt. Fundraising will benefit students and staff.
- IC-4: Special education parents were notified of local IU task force meeting at Parkland’s Troxell building- Topic-“ What’s new in special education”
- IC 4: MS held a Course Selection Meeting for parents
- IC-4: Hopewell Family Social occurred on March 4th
- IC-4: Berwick School District will be visiting Liberty Bell on March 29th to observe our Spanish Immersion Program and to Q & A me and our immersion students as they prepare to offer a similar program.
- IC-4/ HQT-3: Liberty Bell Supports You Committee organized a fundraiser for Saturday, March 13th - a Students Vs. Faculty Indoor Soccer Game which raised over \$1000.00
- IC-4: Parents of prospective Spanish Immersion students had the opportunity to visit a Liberty Bell first grade Spanish Immersion class.
- IC-7: Research continues to assist in the development of assessments to measure early entrants for Kindergarten
- IC8: A laptop cart was purchased to allow for staff training at CO. Machines are dedicated to training in order to not tie up student machines during the instructional day

Highly Qualified Teachers:

- HQT -1: Read 180 coaching sessions are occurring at the HS.
- HQT – 1: Write Traits training is scheduled for all 4th through 8th grade writing teachers.
- Mary Orlando and Sarah Schurkamp provided an overview of PETE&C for HW faculty on the Act 80 day. The entire faculty participated in a technology-focused discussion, which was characterized as very positive, and they are anxious to try new technologies that were shared.
- HQT-1/ AP-6: A new approach to Academy hours is being offered via the Ipod touch. PD webinars have been downloaded to the ipods at the MS and teachers are able to sign one out, watch the webinar, and complete a reflection form for academy credits.
- HQT-1/ HQT-5: A team of 25 teachers/Staff members accompanied by 2 administrators attended PETE&C conference in Hershey Feb 21-24. Teachers report a very positive experience.
- HQT-1/ AP-6/ IC-3: District technology committee met to discuss a variety of technology items. Plans are in place to provide “lunch and learn” opportunities at the building level by making video/online tutorials available for viewing over lunch on a monthly or semi monthly basis. Ideas will be shared on how technology can enhance curriculum.
- HQT-2/AP-2: Mr. Markley, one of our Liberty Bell 2nd Grade teachers, organized a school play with 3rd Grade students. The play is called Bullies Anonymous – presented on Friday, March 12th, at 7:00 P.M.
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