

Southern Lehigh School District Strategic Plan and Middle States Report

To: School Board Members

From: Kristen Lewis, Assistant to the Superintendent

Date: January 23, 2012

Academic Proficiency:

- AP-1: As part of PSSA preparation at the IS, available EF time will be dedicated to PSSA practice.
- AP-1.1: School wide Reading DIBELS and math DIBELS occurred at the K – 3 level
- AP 1.1: MS and HS have completed first round of CDT administration. Literature, math, and science in both buildings
- AP- 1.1: Keystone Exams/Projects Focus Group – starting 1/26 CLIU – Carbon/Lehigh County group
- AP1.1, AP3.2, AP3.5, AP3.10: IS - Mid Year DIBELS and Aimsweb benchmark testing is occurring. PVAAS projection data was shared with all grade levels in pre-PSSA planning.
- AP1.1, AP3.1, AP3.2, AP3.4, AP3.5, AP3.10, AP3.12: SAS Assessment Creator was reviewed with all grade levels as a tool to assist in generating PSSA practice items by subject, grade, question type, standard etc. at the IS>
- AP-2.1: CARES committee at HW met to discuss program and activities
- AP 2.1: Liberty Bell will be holding their 2nd Quarter Pride of Liberty Bell celebration on Friday, January 27, as part of their SWPBS program. Parents are invited
- AP-2.2: Liberty Bell has a parent-led community service group called Liberty Bell Supports You. Other parents have volunteered to lead this group of 80 or so students who take on a different project each month that can benefit the community.
- AP-2.3: National Award from USDA-12/8/11. Liberty Bell, Lower Milford and Hopewell were presented with the Silver School Award as part of the Healthier Schools initiative.
- AP2.5: Met with Jr. Spirit committee to establish upcoming school spirit days
- AP-2, AP-3, AP-5, AP-6, – The **HS HVAC** will bring parents and the public into buildings, supports technology, provides for broader curriculum, assists with the 4 year graduation rate, This project has been taken through the design and bidding process. It will be taken for board approval on January 9
- AP 2.3 and 2.5 – A workshop on iSafe was held for teachers in Tech Smarts (1-3), Design 21 (4-7), Applied Tech (8) and CTA (10th grade) Teachers viewed videos and chose appropriate videos to show at the various grade levels. 10/11
- AP-3.1 The principals, RtII teacher, school psychologist and special education leader attended a webinar on using PVAAS data for student placement and scheduling purposes.
- AP- 3.1: Mrs. Takacs will be meeting with teachers to map out a plan for analysis of data/plans for remediation or enrichment – this is tied to changes in schedules.
- AP-3.1: HS Scheduling Committee
 - Met with Mike Rettig on 12/14. It was a productive meeting and helped us narrow down our schedule choices.
 - The HS Scheduling Committee met to list the pros/cons of the four schedules we came away with from Rettig. Plans are underway to visit some schools with similar schedules.
 - The HS Scheduling Committee met to discuss and narrow down schools to visit. Currently planning to visit Salisbury on 1/27/12. A visit to Nazareth is in the works.

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- AP-3.2 K – 6 Data team meetings are occurring to develop plan for identified needs. . Teams will be reviewing all the mid-year data class by class. Interventions will be altered. Students may be exited/entered from or to interventions. Plans of action will be created on students who we feel there may be significant red flags. Teams will also reflect on our progress and celebrations as well as look at how we are progressing toward school goals. New math intervention groups have been formed, based on Math DIBELS data and classroom test data, to support the enVisions Math Common Core curriculum.
- AP-3.2: SOS assignments are being assigned to meet the needs of students needing additional support
- AP 3.2: 3rd grade continues to align Math topic tests to their pacing guides
- AP 3.4: Class sets of History of US purchased for 3 8th grade Social Studies classes. Francisco has translated 6 of the volumes and will complete this work later in year/during summer. He has made changes to website to better accommodate Spanish Immersion. All of his translations are now on-line
- AP 3.7: 3 additional students were enrolled in our Cyber option bring the total to 8 (7 HS, 1 MS). Procedures need to be implemented to aide in the transition from our Brick and Mortar to Cyber.
- AP 3.8 MS 7th grade Social Studies – Anita and Joan to Pete & C. Additional resources for a more global course ordered/delivered to Anita/Steph at MS
- AP 5.1 – Curriculum Process Committee – Update Started 5/11 – book study on **Schooling by Design**. 2nd book study group formed in 9/11 and completed 1/12. (2nd group did much work in Bb) Goal: increase understanding and capacity of UbD. Continue work of committee. Committee is now a combination of folks from each book study group with elem, MS, HS representation. First meeting of second committee was 1/16, next mtg 1/25. Groups have received collated documents from Aug, Oct in-services and subject leader meetings on 1. Mission Statement and 2.collation of everyone’s submission of EU and EQ. Committee is tasked with updating documents using UbD “3 stages” , inclusion of all standards including CC and NETS, process documents, assessment documents, videos etc – all to be contained under CURRICULUM on website. Ken and I have already started updated the curriculum website.
- AP-6.3: iPads continue to be integrated into whole group and small group instruction.
- AP-6.3: On 1/16/12 HS developed several technology programs for our half day LCTI students to participate in since LCTI was closed and students were in attendance at SL for the day. The 10th grade LCTI students worked on their graduation project.
- AP 8.1 – Mrs. Takacs held meetings/work with small groups of key teachers/courses to create new midterms/final – revise existing. Targeting those with new courses, lack of alignment and/or teachers who are pro-active and want to change.
- AP 8.1: The HS Biology plans working Days on 1/19 and 1/27 at CO. Working on mapping/pacing curriculum, working on draft of midterm/final, discussion regarding book selection/material needs.
- AP 8.5: Lower Milford Reading specialist coordinated with PTA for an Author Visit by nature author/photographer Kathy M. Miller, recipient of 15 national book awards. Faculty and PTA have collaborated to plan several curriculum-related assemblies funded by PTA: Jonathan Sprout (music education); Wonders of the Rain Forest; Franklin Institute “Hot and Cold”;
- AP-10.1: Officer McLaughlin checking on a tardiness and residency issue at HW
- AP 10.1 – **Water Loss HS 12/21/11** occurred after buses were in route. Every effort was made to keep students in school from flushing toilets with buckets to transferring potable water. Problem was complaints from students and staff. Water was restored before an early dismissal was required.

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- Entire AP category – **The transportation RFP** is a huge undertaking that impacts nearly every AP activity. The goal of the RFP is to increase quality of service while reducing cost. The RFP increased from 12 pages to 60 pages and the process became very structured. Opening is 1/4/12

Improved Communications:

- IC – 1.5: IS teachers have worked to improve flow and increase information available to students and parents using teacher websites. The IS PTG communicates through the school district website.
- IC -1.5: Joan and Ken updated Staff Center/Curriculum homepage to more accurately reflect CC, NETS, SAS standards
- IC-2.1: Report Card data entry and review meetings were held this month in order to prepare for 2nd qtr progress reports
- IC 2.1: Survey to k-3 teachers was distributed to elicit feedback on the comment banks. Will be reviewed with k-3 Principals to see if action is warranted. This resulted from questions after the 1st two marking periods.
- IC 5.1: The entire transportation RFP process was paperless. This saved the district around 10,000 pages and provided a digital trail with acknowledgments and confirmations in an attempt to avoid any confusion in the future. All future bids and RFP processes will be 100% paperless.
- IC 5.1: Efforts are being made to make the facilities committee paperless. Processes are still being fine-tuned, but benefits are seen with photos and digital communication.
- IC 5.1: Middle School students and parents notified of Course Selection Meeting for upcoming 9th graders by Connect Ed they were also notified of instructional calendar.
- IC-2.1: Continue to work with teachers and curriculum/technology to monitor /revise elementary report card
- IC-2.1: Tech facilitator provided Sapphire report card training to specialists and created a training video
- IC-7.1: Human Resources - Three policies were rewritten, research is being conducted on 4 others
- IC 8.7: Technology coaches and facilitators are working to develop a survey to gather data on technology usage in the classroom

Highly Qualified Staff:

- HQ 1.1: Ken Jordan met with a representative of Standards Solution to discuss the PD needs of our district. They are preparing a report and proposal for PD
- HQ 1.1: Ken Jordan attended a workshop on the common core k-5 math. Session was informative and a great professional development experience
- HQ 1.1: A representative from the Middle School teaching staff participated in a staff development training on instructional strategies
- HQ 1.4: During slow periods for sub departments of Support Services staff is cross trained and used in other areas. The Utility Person has been covering for the past three weeks as a head custodian, Grounds is covering the utility person's duties as well as taking on many projects that are maintenance oriented.
- HQ 1.6: 2nd **Schooling by Design** book study group was a partial Blackboard / live academy.
- HQ 1.8: CDT academy on December 19. Additional CDT training at the IU for Joan Takacs, Heather Toto and Jeff Hershey

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- HQ-2.1: Nurses are presenting a monthly email/posting on various health topics for faculty and staff. “Wellness Wednesday” topics have included Staying Healthy During Flu Season, Fire Safety, Radon, Pediculosis, Food Allergies, Winter Driving Safety, Stress
- HQ-4.1: Team meetings occurred to review DIBELS results and to assign new students and readjust intervention groups.
- HQ-4.1: PVAAS projection data was shared with all grade levels in pre-PSSA planning.
- HQ-4.1: SAS Assessment Creator was reviewed with all grade levels as a tool to assist in generating PSSA practice items by subject, grade, question type, standard etc.
- HQ-5.1: The principals, RtII teacher, school psychologist and special education leader attended a webinar on using PVAAS data for student placement and scheduling purposes.
- HQ – 5.1: Members of the district administration and staff are attending CLIU’s “**Capacity Building with SAS Year 2**” professional development workshops. The focus is on Where Are We Now with SAS and reviewing Capacity Building with SAS through action plans. Sessions include Understanding By Design, Using DATA with CDTs, Concepts of Universal Design for Learning, and Common Core.