



## *Superintendent's Report*

To: Board Members  
From: Leah M. Christman  
Date: Aug 26, 2013

- The staff kick-off for the new school year was very positive. The assembly on Tuesday, August 20 featured a welcome from Mr. Dimmig, introductions of new staff, welcome from Mr. Sinkler, SLEA President and a presentation from Mr. Tucker on his trip to China this summer. Mrs. Christman shared 3 videos to inspire staff for a positive year- A Ted Talk with Rita Pierson, Chris Ashton Kutcher's Teen Award speech, and one on the Chocolate Bar Book from [www.chocolatebarbook.com](http://www.chocolatebarbook.com). Tuesday focused on a very productive day on the PA Standards with a team on consultants from Discovery Education. The team will return to work with teachers in October. Thursday provided time to prepare for the new school year along with new student orientation sessions in all buildings. Teachers also watched a presentation regarding changes with teacher evaluation and our differentiated supervision model that begins this school year.
- This summer brought 178 new registrations between June 15 and today. (41-K; 19-1; 17-2; 11-3; 16-4; 12-5; 20-6; 7-7; 5-8; 11-9; 8-10; 5-11; 6-12). We also had 56 withdraws (15- K; 5-1; 9-2; 2-3; 1-6; 1-7; 5-9; 3-10; 4-11; 1-12). We typically receive about 30 -35 new registrations each summer in addition to kindergarten, so this has been a highly unusual summer for enrollments.
- Schools got off to a great start today! Everything ran very smoothly as teachers and principals welcomed the students back! Transportation also ran very smoothly.
- The Chinese teachers arrived late Saturday evening and were in their classes today. Both are very articulate and outgoing. I am sure the students will have a great year with our visiting scholar teachers.
- Most have most likely heard that the federal government approved the PDE NCLB waiver. AYP will now only apply to Title I schools (IS & MS in our district), but all schools will be assigned a PA Performance Profile score that is based upon various metrics. Beginning this year, that score will factor into

teacher evaluations. We are also required to develop Student Learning Objectives (SLO's) this school year to implement for next year. These student measures – determined by the district- will also become a part of the teacher and principal evaluation starting in 2014-15. We will be participating in training and a pilot with a team of teachers this year to learn more about the requirements.

- A new acting Secretary of Education Carolyn Dumaresq was named today after the former Secretary Harner resigned. Dr. Dumaresq has been serving as the Executive Deputy Secretary.