



Superintendent's Report

To: Board Members

From: Dr. Leah M. Christman

Date: September 12, 2016

- Hopewell elementary building update – Mr. Bergey and I met with our construction managers last week to review the punch list of corrections needing to be made, and the timeline for the completion of the building:
 - Punch list includes touchups for paint, drywall, flooring scratches, display case completion, an additional tack board installed.
 - Some classrooms are experiencing HVAC problems. The issue was identified and repairs will be made this week.
 - The re-modification of the installation of heat pumps located in the service closets may also begin this week.
 - Completed demolition of the old building should be finalized by September 16.
 - Curbing is expected to be in by September 19, with stone to follow by September 26, and final blacktop to commence on October 7. The site will be close to traffic over the Columbus Day weekend so that paving has time to set.
 - Fencing will be moved over Columbus Day weekend to encircle the area still needing site work.
 - Some additional parts were needed for the security system to allow entrance with Fobs- these have been ordered and are expected within 2 to 3 weeks.
 - We have encountered a problem with the pole vault system that houses classroom projectors tied to the sound system. We are hopeful this will be corrected this week and training will be given to staff on how to use the new system.
 - A sprinkler/detector that operates at a higher temperature will be installed in the kiln room off of the art room over the holiday weekend.
 - With parking being limited, Ms. Limpar is planning an open house for parents to occur as soon as the new parking area is available. We are planning for the official ribbon cutting/community open house on October 20 as long as the parking area is completed as planned.
- We recently completed and published another iBook- “Empowering today’s learners for tomorrow’s opportunities”, available for download through the iBook app. The book will be used for our renewal of the Apple Distinguished program recognition and captures our journey with 21st century learning since our last publication in 2013. The book provides evidence through our story and includes many photos, videos, and data points that show our progress. It features evidence in 5 chapters including visionary, shared and individual leadership; community engagement; creative teaching and learning; ongoing professional

development; compelling evidence; and flexible learning environments, school design, and IT supports.

- Dr. Shota Teruya of Inaraki University and Dr. Koichi Yamashita of Kobe University, Japan, both professors in their Graduate Schools of Education, visited Southern Lehigh last week to better understand our comprehensive strategic planning and Middle States Accreditation processes and how these lead our district's continuous improvement. They found our school on the Internet and selected us for their exclusive visit, noting that we were one of the few public school districts that had embraced the *Achieving Excellence System Wide* protocol. After spending a day reviewing and discussing the processes with Superintendent, Dr. Leah Christman and Kristen Lewis, Assistant to the Superintendent, the professors still had time to meet with a team of teachers and principals and tour the Intermediate School. Thanks to Principals Mary Farris and Dr. Edward Donahue and our IS/MS teachers, Corry Robbins, Michael Pauling, Robert Fluck, and Karen Ryan for sharing their perspectives on these processes! Our new Japanese friends were very impressed with Southern Lehigh and assured us that they learned a great deal to take back to their colleagues in Japan! They also planned to meet with the President of MSA Friday before returning home.