



Superintendent's Report

To: Board Members

From: Leah M. Christman

Date: August 27, 2012

- Teachers returned Tuesday, Aug 21 and we had a successful first week. Our Welcome back assembly featured an overview of the Superintendent's Goals as previously shared with the Board, along with updates on our focus for the year. Mr. David Dougherty, HS Teacher gave an inspiring, upbeat and fun presentation on being a "Hero" as an educator. Teachers worked on room set up, building goals, curriculum and syllabi updates, Reading/Writing Across the Curriculum, Science curriculum work and the HS 1:1 rollout. Student orientation sessions also occurred last week.
- 1:1 Updates- All committees met again to iron out plans. The HS staff is working as a team to ensure success and teachers are actively engaged to plan and implement. Laptops will be deployed on Sept. 5. Logistics/ procedures are coming together and will be communicated to students in opening week assemblies. Data and Measurement has identified qualitative and quantitative data to collect, teachers are creating plans for PD with resident experts- sessions on BlackBoard and Google Docs were already presented as 'starters' and initiated excitement, tutorials have been created for students regarding digital content management, a rubric to measure 21st century skills is being finalized and will be piloted with several teachers, and plans are underway to create a webpage for all plans to ensure everyone can learn about our process and progress. This will continue throughout the year We have been selected as one of 50 finalists to be invited to work with Project RED as a Signature School. We will learn by Sept. 6 if we are one of the 20 nationwide selected. CLIU will be provided support (surveys/ reports) through Clarity Online/ BrightByte consulting free of charge to help us monitor our progress.

- There have been community concerns expressed over stagnant water throughout the district and West Nile virus with mosquitos. Specifically, retention ponds designed to deal with water management are of concern. Support Services is actively managing these areas and water is being treated to prevent insect breeding.
- There have been a few community complaints over the printed calendars. The District has taken all measures to ensure that we are sharing calendars in the least expensive manner. The calendar is a student project at LCTI- OUR career and technical school. Calendars are designed, printed, labeled and bundled for bulk mailing at LCTI. The cost to mail the calendar to every mailing address/resident (approximately 9200) is .122 / calendar. The cost to mail first class would be \$1.75, plus envelope, labels, manpower to manage, stuff and sort would be much higher. The electronic calendar is updated as new information arises or changes, but feedback over the years for the printed calendar in the community has been positive and the Board has voted to continue this practice.
- Elementary class sizes are pretty well balanced throughout the 3 primary buildings and have not exceeded are early summer maximums. We will continue to monitor.
- Communications: All parents and guardians are being encouraged to sign up for Blackboard Connect and Sapphire. All teachers have websites and are working on updating them. The Athletic Department has been working hard to improve their site and it has a new look with easier navigation.
- We are anticipating a very successful start to the 2012-13 school year.