



## ***Superintendent's Report***

To: Board Members

From: Leah M. Christman

Date: September 10, 2012

- The first two weeks of school went very smoothly. I extend my thanks to everyone for such a great start to the year!
- Liberty Bell Elementary has partnered with Putt U. and has put together a community-wide fundraiser for the Joseph P. Liberati scholarship fund at Putt U. on September 29. T-Shirts, totes and mini-golf hole sponsorships are being sold to benefit the scholarship. Proceeds from the day will also go to the scholarship.
- We recently utilized our electronic alert system as a result of the postponement of the High School Back to School Night and learned that while the HS sent the message via phone, email and text, some messages were not received. We believe that there is a problem related to our switching to Connect 5- the latest software that allows parents to update their contacts through the Parent Portal and select how they want to be notified. The company is investigating and we hope to have this resolved quickly.
- We have been dealing with some challenges in some of our buildings related to our HVAC that seem to be compounded by the high humidity we have experienced during the first 2 weeks of school. Support Services is working to resolve this.
- The HS deployed laptops to all students on 9/5 and the processes put in place seem to be working well. As I have visited the HS, I have observed teachers who are utilizing the laptops in their classes and students seem to be very comfortable and positive about their use. BrightByte, the consulting group CLIU is working with for all IU schools, is updating their initial survey that we planned to use for baseline data. We expect this to be available by the end of September.
- Our administrative committee reviewing teacher supervision/evaluation has met and updated our procedures to reflect changes being implemented State-wide for teacher evaluation. These materials will be shared with all teachers during upcoming faculty meetings.

- We have made the final cut to be a Project RED Signature District. As a Signature District, Southern Lehigh “will bear the mark of research-based methodologies and practices which lead to successful outcomes. [We] will have access to special resources and benefits as [we] manage [our] technology implementation plans in the 2012-2013 school year.” Project Red will also be issuing a press release with more information for our use. They have indicated that we are among the first ten districts nationwide selected and that they’ll be in touch with us with next steps very soon.

*From Project RED website:*

*“Technology is woven into every aspect of our lives, and education is no exception. With the belief that technology can make a substantial impact on schools and students, three research organizations - The Greaves Group, The Hayes Connection and One-to-One Institute - established Project RED: **R**evolutionizing **E**ducation. Initially these organizations conducted a national survey of technology programs in 1,000 schools, which is the first and only national research focusing on academic results and the financial implication of education technology. The findings showed that if effectively implemented, technology programs can lead to improved student achievement and significant return on investment. With a call to action, Project RED is now launching the Project RED Community: From Research to Results.”*