KDE Audit Improvement Priorities and Solutions:

Improvement Priority #1:

Engage multiple stakeholder in the creation of a clear and concise purpose (e.g., mission, vision, beliefs, goals, expectations) that encompasses high expectations for teaching and learning. Specifically, within the district’s purpose statement(s), communicate district expectations for the delivery of grade-level appropriate curriculum through high-quality teaching practices. Develop a plan to monitor implementation and effectiveness of the district’s purpose based on measureable results of student achievement. (Standard 1.1)

-Priority #1 items listed above is currently in process. We have already began the initial steps in speaking with our student leadership groups from both schools (March 19th and March 21st) about a revised mission statement and also a current vision statement. We will be meeting with employee and other stakeholder groups in April and May and continuing the development and vetting of a mission and vision statement with various stakeholders over the coming few months to share when we return in August. I anticipate we will have the Mission Statement and our district motto displayed on both sides of the Board of Education office as well as displayed in other areas.

Improvement Priority #2:

Establish and implement a districtwide systematic process that increases student learning through high-quality instructional practices. Develop a method for ongoing collection and use of multiple sources of data to measure the effectiveness of instructional practices on student achievement. Use consistent and timely analysis to monitor and revise the continuous improvement process. Regularly communicate with all stakeholders (i.e., at the onset and throughout) about the continuous implementation process.

(Primary Standard 1.3, Secondary Standard 1.10)

A solution to address the concerns raised in priority #2 above should be covered by a new district-wide Director of Teaching and Learning/Chief Academic Officer. We anticipate our School Board will evaluate and approve this position to begin July 1, 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year. If possible, depending on who is hired, we may try to start them prior to this date to begin what will be a significant amount of work. You may refer to the objectives identified for the position as well as the job description.

Improvement Priority #3:

Design and implement a process for district and school leaders to systematically monitor and adjust curriculum implementation (e.g., standards, high expectations, rigorous delivery of instruction, a balanced assessment system). Use multiple methods (e.g., classroom observations, data analysis from assessments and programs, curriculum planning, monitoring, and feedback; intentional coaching and modeling, personalized professional learning experiences) for district and school leaders to collaboratively monitor the quality and fidelity of the degree to which instructional practices meet student needs and learning expectations. (Primary Standard 2.7, Secondary Standard 2.5)

Similar to Priority #2, the solution to address the concerns raised in priority #3 above should be covered by a new district-wide Director of Teaching and Learning/Chief Academic Officer in close collaboration with school Principals. This will further develop a well-functioning leadership team. We anticipate our School Board will evaluate and approve this position to begin July 1, 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year. If possible, depending on who is hired, we may try to start them prior to this date to begin what will be a significant amount of work. You may refer to the objectives identified for the position as well as the job description…however, we acknowledge the new Director of Teaching and Learning/CAO will not function in a “silo” and will be extremely collaborative and systematic in scope.

Superintendent Whalen comments/solutions in red.