**Teaching And Learning**

**9-16-19**

The new Five Star Rating committee met on 9/4/19 and 9/5/19 and completed their task of creating recommendations to the commissioner for the new Five Star Accountability rating System. The commissioner did accept the committee’s recommendations.We are on track to receive scores and accountability ratings in late September or early October.

Working with the elementary administration as well as Ms. Merrill, Ms. Higgins and Ms. Lancaster, we re-worked the self-contained master schedule to make the best use of our para workers and secure the best learning opportunities for those students.

PLC processes are at work in both the elementary and junior/senior high school. The elementary teams are meeting on Wednesdays, and have established their systems protocols and roles. The high school was able to meet initially in three hour blocks by department -- a very beneficial opportunity. The two processes will not be truly reflective of each other because the elementary has an opportunity for horizontal work. The high school effort will be more vertical -- which will be the impetus to move the district to our K-12 vertical alignment of the curriculum.

Vertical alignment K-12 has begun with work between Mr. Godbey and the elementary writing teachers. Very good things are happening there. The next subject to move towards that elementary and junior/senior high bridge will probably be science.

Meetings with middle school RTI teachers to identify students in need of services, based on CERT scores, has occurred for both math and reading. The numbers are higher than we would like, but these teachers have met the challenge in the past and will do so again.

Data meetings have taken place at both the elementary and junior/senior high levels with the preliminary individual student data. All staff who have been engaged have signed non-disclosure agreements, as the data is still embargoed. Preliminarily we have high hopes for the elementary results and we feel as though the junior/senior high will continue their steady course.

Walk through instruments have been finalized for both the elementary and junior/senior high. Calibration for the use of the instruments have taken place. Walks should be occurring in both buildings by the week of 9/16/19.

Administration at both levels, Ms. Merrill and Mr. Cavanah all attended an excellent workshop on Increasing the Achievement of Students with Disabilities. We have some excellent opportunities to have our paras trained through the coop and Ms. Merrill to provide our IEP students with the best learning experience we can. This will be very beneficial as we continue to evaluate and improve our collaborative process.

Future Focus: Employing the walk through process to maximum benefit. Continue the direction of the PLC process to improve instruction and work to vertically align the K-12 curriculum. Continue to identify the need for intervention as soon as possible -- the earliest intervention is the best opportunity for recovery.