

- **January 9, 2013**

*Posted by Shannon Focht at 1/10/2013*

#### Elementary Schools:

All three elementary school staff members met at Jefferson Elementary on January 9, 2013. An all staff meeting was held in the multi-purpose room to make general announcements and to outline the topics for the day. Each grade level met in an assigned classroom to collaborate about the common core state standards in language arts, both reading and writing.

The grade level classroom teachers reported progress on adapting the current language arts curriculum to better align with the common core standards. The assessment and monitoring of the standards were also discussed. One recurring theme in the reports was that the teachers needed more time with the agenda before the collaboration day to be more prepared for the items being discussed. A leader should be named in each group to facilitate the progress of each team.

Elementary PE teachers discussed the classroom based assessments they will be administering. They also discussed purchasing some equipment that can be shared across the schools to enhance student opportunities while sharing the cost of the items.

Title I staff talked about better scheduling for the DIBELS assessment and the impact the common core in language arts will have on the interventions they provide to struggling students.

Special education staff discussed SRA reading mastery programs and the implementation of progress monitoring to go alongside the program. They shared strategies for scheduling students in special education time slots throughout the day in an efficient manner. Methods for organizing data were also discussed.

Elementary library staffs met together at Franklin Elementary to record and align the books in the collection with Lexile scores. The MAP assessment which

is given to all students three times per year also assigns a Lexile range to each student's reading ability. Having the books identified by Lexile score will allow students to select books within their range and reading ability.

All of the district music staff met at Lincoln Middle School to discuss how the music education program builds on skill beginning in kindergarten and progressing through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Classroom based assessments were also discussed.

Art staff from across the district met at Lincoln Middle School to discuss the feasibility of a district art show.

Collaboration days require a lot of sacrifice, work and planning to result in stronger programs for all of the students in the school district.

Principals:

Bill Holman, Franklin Elementary

Craig Nelson, Jefferson Elementary

Pam Brantner, Sunnyside Elementary

Lincoln Middle School and Pullman High School

**Counseling/Psych:** Met district wide to work on 504 policies.

**CTE:** Discussed skills gaps and frameworks.

**English:** Met with LMS English teachers and discussed Smarter Balance pilot, Common Core and the need to teach more complex reading material.

**Health and Fitness:** Met with LMS staff to revise Flash curriculum.

**Library:** Collaborative project working on Lexile scores and student achievement.

**Math:** Discussed classroom strategies to address issues related to classroom behaviors that are detrimental to student achievement.

**Science:** Met with LMS teachers. Discussed vertical alignment in support of Biology EOC. Discussed pre and post assessments.

**Social Studies:** Finalized curriculum changes to the WH scope and sequence. Began work on Civic curriculum.

**Special Education:** Discussed student data collection and teacher handbook.

**World Language:** Reviewed textbook adoption and plans for World Language week.

Principals:

Cameron Grow, Lincoln Middle School

Joe Thornton, Pullman High School