

- **May 2, 2012**

*Posted by Shannon Focht at 5/11/2012*

### **Elementary**

The three district elementary schools met together on Wednesday May 2<sup>nd</sup> for district collaboration. Grade level teams spent time examining and discussing student work samples. Each teacher brought samples of a common core math task that all district students have recently completed. Teachers discussed similarities that they noticed with students that met standard and what common mistakes were that other students made. The second half of the collaboration afternoon was spent in school site teams. Teachers spent time examining examples of the new common core math standards and how those standards progress from year to year. Elementary specialists' teams met in small groups and worked on various agendas and projects together. The day was extremely useful and productive for all staff involved.

-Brian Moore, Franklin Elementary Principal

### **Lincoln Middle School**

Lincoln Middle School met with Pullman High School on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the goals that were attained during the year and where we are headed in each of our department groups for the upcoming year. Each team set goals for the upcoming year regarding alignment and common assessments. Student growth was the topic as teams split into grade levels as each team began looking for opportunities for real time interventions with kids in the areas of language arts and math. Teams also discussed cross curricular activities regarding math, language arts, science, and social studies and the importance of vocabulary within these activities. Overall it was a great day as each group made significant strides towards ensuring student growth in all areas.

-Cameron Grow, Principal

### **Pullman High School**

The staff of PHS and LMS met on May 2. The day began with a discussion about and planning for next year's goals. The groups then divided into building groups. The PHS staff worked by departments to finalize the paragraph writing matrix and rubric. Each department then continued discussions centered on student learning.

-Joe Thornton, PHS Principal

The Social Studies team at Pullman HS and Lincoln MS meet during our collaboration day 5/2.

The first hour was dedicated to a discussion of complete realignments of Social studies curriculum (6-12) dictated by the new state standards to be implemented in 2013. It was decided that the teachers would break into teams to formulate curriculum suggestions over the summer.

- Michael Riley & Kristen Walker will discuss 8th grade alignment
- Declan Keogh & Calvin Creger will take 10th grade alignment
- Craig McCormick & Debbie Nakata will address 11th grade changes and the new Civic requirement.
- At the end of the summer the groups will meet to communicate alignment progress.

The rest of the day was given over to building work. The Pullman HS team continued discussion on the high school realignment and evaluated

- Possibly allowing students to take AP US history independently (providing them support and direction) but not offering US AP classes
- The direction of the state "Contemporary World History" course to be implemented in 2013. Discussion centered on starting the course at 1500 CE and having the Middle School address more Ancient Civilization. Further alignment with 10th grade English was addressed as well.
- Creating a senior level Civics Course (again as dictated by State requirements) and the resulting impact on existing courses.

-Declan Keogh, PHS Teacher

Our main focus has been on paragraph writing and oral power point presentation assessments for all four world language levels. We developed rubrics and writing checklists for each level. We collaborated with our Spanish colleague from Colfax and shared ideas for instruction, projects and assessments. Each member of the group presented ideas on how to collaborate with other departments for future cross curriculum activities.

Our department goal is to have common assessments for the different languages at each level of study. Next year, we would like to meet with the department of history/ social studies to discuss co - teaching possibilities.

-Tina Fernandez, PHS Teacher