

Report to the Joint School Committees

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Concord-Carlisle Regional School District

Superintendent
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Entry Plan

My entry plan is well underway. To date, I met with teachers at each school, held five parent/community forums and conducted surveys of administrators, staff, parents and students. The response to the surveys was very positive with current responses totaling 107 teachers, 253 parents and 856 CCHS students. I will spend the coming weeks analyzing the data for themes. So far, patterns are evident in the high regard for the teaching staff, concerns over student stress and hopes to rectify parking issues at CCHS. In December, I will present my complete findings and recommendations.

Strategic Planning

The strategic planning process will flow from my personal entry plan into a district wide conversation. The Planning for Success consultant has been secured to facilitate the process. The process will involve five meetings with the administrative team and four planning meetings with a group of 30-35 stakeholders. Community forums are a large component of the process. We are currently developing specific dates and timelines.

Mindfulness

The Mindfulness Strategic Planning Committee met twice to date. The team reviewed a SWOT analysis relative to our current status in the district's use of mindfulness. The second meeting brought discussion in elementary and secondary groups of more specific needs and integration of current practices. Sharing practices across K-12 has been very information and will help lead us to concrete plans.

Cultural Proficiency

EDCO's IDEAS program provided guidance to the administrative team in the discussion of a policy regarding religious holiday accommodations and staff training. The draft policy will be shared with staff prior to submission to the Policy Subcommittee.

Communication and Collaboration

I continue to enjoy regular visits to classrooms in all of the schools. I toured Peabody with the student principal of the day. I attended this month's SEPAC meeting along with Special Education Director Jessica Murphy. Collaboration among community groups this month include Concord on Tap, Center of Parents and Teachers, Concord-Carlisle Youth Services and the Concord Education Fund. A monthly meeting is in place with Carlisle Superintendent Jim O'Shea. Monthly meetings with both the CTA and CCTA leadership are collaborative and positive.

Response to Intervention

The elementary schools continue their work to review the fall data and provide targeted services. I attended a grade five grade level meeting at Alcott. Given the release of the MCAS scores, administrators and faculty are also analyzing the data for students in need of support. CMS discussions continue toward developing a complete middle school model.

STEAM Innovation Lab

The design portion of the lab remains under revision. We await engineering plans related to the necessary infrastructure work. The educational portion of the STEAM Innovation Lab is planned for both whole school kickoffs and a pilot program for grade 5. We are partnering with Lesley University and our elementary science leadership.

Whole School Kickoffs

4 - 6 STEAM building challenges will be set up. All four classes at a grade level will come in at the same time. Students will choose which activity to do.

Dec. 6 - Alcott (Cafeteria)

Dec. 7 - Willard (Library)

Dec. 8 - Thoreau (Library)

Grade 5 Classes to "STEAM INNOVATION LAB"

Conference Room #1 at Ripley will be transformed into a STEAM lab. Each of the twelve grade 5 classes will come individually for 3/4 of the day to do a design challenge.

January 3, 4, 5, 8 - Alcott grade 5 classes

January 10, 11, 12, 17 - Thoreau grade 5 classes

January 18, 19, 22, 24 - Willard grade 5 classes

Spanish K-5/ Latin CMS

The Spanish program began on October 2 to a resounding sentiment of success. The student response has been very positive to the highly engaging approach to learning Spanish. Each school is integrating Spanish into the daily lives of students as well. It is exciting to imagine where the program will go from here.