

Directors' Meeting
9.20.16 – 10:30 a.m.

Present:

Cartner
Sanders
Cox
Austin

Cowell
Davenport
Ewers
Hawkins

Heath
James-Davis
Lane
Parker

Pauley
Sawyer
Thompson
Whitehurst

Dr. Cartner opened the meeting.

Dr. Cartner reported that the S.A.F.E. Schools Spaghetti Dinner on 9.19.16 was a huge success. Final figures are not in, but there were 570 plates served in the drive-thru alone. He expressed gratitude to Andy & Karin Montero for spearheading this initiative and for their commitment to ECPSS.

Dr. Cartner asked for good news, reports and information.

Davenport reported that she and Cowell participated in a Low Performing Schools Webinar on Monday. A meeting will be scheduled with principals of Low Performing schools to go over key topics and discuss timelines. Four schools (PES, ECMS, RRMS, PWM) will have to submit Low Performing plans for 2016-17.

Davenport reported on NERESA Calibration Observation training she and Pauley attended.

Pauley shared information about two “free” literacy based curriculum intervention programs for middle schools (STARI & WORD GEN).

Pauley indicated that the NCDPI Health/PE contact is interested in conducting training for Health/PE teachers on the evaluation process and needs a location to hold the training. ECPSS has volunteered to host.

Davenport commented on the Max Thompson (Learning Focused) visits in schools (JCS, RRMS, PES, HLT, PWM, SH) held last week. She indicated the instructional coaches were more involved in conversations during this round of visits.

Lane shared that the Regional BT Coordinator indicated that the district has received “accomplished” or “exceeded” for all markers on the BT Plan and that she was pleased with the growth in the program.

Lane reported that he and Cowell are wrapping up inductions for new teachers and working on a supply order for beginning teachers. He also shared that “Tuesday” Sessions are in full-swing.

Cowell discussed the potential to hire student teachers from MACU, ECSU, ECU.

Cowell reported that mentor qualification is a hot topic due to changes in state requirements.

Pauley reported on the AdvancED (accreditation) renewal process. Site visits are scheduled for February 12-15. Backwards planning has been done to develop a timeline and the district is in the first stage (surveys) at this point. The plans are to be complete by December and that will give the system December/January to review/edit and be prepared for the February visit. Survey data is an important part of the process and principals have been asked to encourage parent & staff participation. District-level encouragement regarding survey participation has been done via SchoolConnects.

Austin reported that mClass Benchmarks end next week. 30 of 100 teachers have completed the testing at this point.

Hawkins reported that Beginning of Grade (3rd grade) testing is wrapping up. There are some bright stars, but there are also a lot of students scoring Level I.

Hawkins and Dr. Cartner commented on 2015-16 Discipline Data and the discussion held at Board

Committee meetings.

Sanders reported on the PST Thursday Sessions with PES teachers.

James-Davis reported that a team will be attending PBIS training in Plymouth next week.

Lane indicated the first “Teacher Talk” session for BT will be held this week. He and Cowell will address concerns and provide interventions.

James-Davis shared information about the new Virtual Enterprise class at PCHS. She is impressed by the class and commented on powerful student-led discussions she observed during a visit to the class.

Lane gave a shout out to RRMS for its STEM program, and especially to the work being done by Sharon Meads. The school is working toward implementing STEM school-wide.

Hawkins indicated the PMCE has been very responsive to providing sponsorship for the Student Technology Fee. She asked about possible topics (pertaining to poverty) to include on PMCE agendas. It was suggested that the Tammy Pawloski training be on the October agenda.

Ewers reported on difficulties schools are having regarding the State requirement that all new students provide proof of a health assessments beginning this year. She asked if there was any consideration to extending the due date. Dr. Cartner responded state law governs the matter and there is no ability to extend the deadline. Sentara has worked with the school district to add additional evening appointment hours, and at last check, there were still evening appointments available. This appears to be a problem only for students who are transferring into the district. First time enrollees have always had to deal with the requirement.

Sanders reported that the district is investigating online registration for new students and plans are to do a trial run in the spring.

Lane reported that BT is moving to online monitoring and it allows regional/state staff to access files at any time.

Ewers reported that changes made in EC (alignment of classes) this year are going well.

Dr. Cartner closed by indicating the group has a lot of good work going on. He asked everyone to remember the teachers (especially those in grades 3, 7 and HS English that are implementing two initiatives -- Learning Focused and 1:1). He encouraged everyone to think about what can be done from the district-level to make things easier for those on the front line.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.