**Teaching and Learning Update February 2013**

**Curriculum/ Materials Adoption**- Math, math, math! We have 39 stakeholders counting teachers, parents and students at three building levels involved in the adoption process at this point. As you have seen, we have our stakeholder survey out and I'm in the process of publicizing it across the district. After a day and a half, I have 59 completed surveys. My goal is 500! I had Laurie send all board members the link to the survey for you to personally take and I would encourage you to forward it on to any stakeholder in the district that you believe would have or should have input into this process.

**Professional Development**- The big learning opportunity on the horizon this month is the Mark Church, "Making Thinking Visible" workshops coming up the first two Saturdays in March. We have 11 teachers plus a number of administrators that will be taking part in this learning opportunity that is designed to give learning environment leaders a tool kit of routines that increase the cognitive demand in their classrooms. This same group will lead a summer institute in August around the same opportunity for the entire staff.

Having 3 of 3 teacher candidates receive their National Board Certification last year, we have another cadre of teachers beginning the process this week. There are 6 teachers all from the middle school being led by Lynn Cooke in this endeavor!

**ELL**- We are just completing our WELPA testing (Washington English Language Proficiency Assessment) for this year. We will have our results back in late spring and it will give us feedback individually on students to monitor their progress towards exiting the program as well as giving us overall feedback on the effectiveness of our program.

**Career and Technical Education** (CTE)- Nothing new to report here outside of beginning the process of determining our class offerings for next year.

**Title I/LAP**- We have completed the process of bringing on our additional kindergarten teacher who is fully engaged in working with a group 15 students broken into small groups during the week and bringing them back as a large group for a 5$^{th}$ day on Fridays. So far the feedback from all concerned has been very positive.

**Highly Capable**- The 6$^{th}$ grade group of "Math is Cool" students placed 4$^{th}$ in the county in our first ever contest at any grade level. Our 4$^{th}$ and 5$^{th}$ grade group continues to meet weekly and will be competing coming up here in March.

**Testing/Assessment**- The next state testing will be the high school HSPE (high school proficiency exam) in reading and writing on March 12$^{th}$ through the 14$^{th}$. The MSP (grades 3-8) testing window is between April 24$^{th}$ and May 16$^{th}$.

Thanks, Dave.