Teaching and Learning Update

March 2011

We have had 68, fifth and sixth grade parents attend a SuccessMaker home access meeting to pickup software. We will be holding these meetings the rest of the school year on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month at 6 pm so that we can get as many students as possible working on this program over the summer. I spent some time last week recreating log-ins and passwords for Pearson On-Line so that they match our SuccessMaker log-ins and passwords. Pearson On-Line is the on-line resource for our in classroom math adoption. Parents and students can access their complete textbook, print worksheets if lost and get extra help and instruction along with games that focus on the current concept they are studying. This was done for grades 3-5 and teachers made an effort to promote this at the conferences this week.

We have finished the WLPT-II testing (Washington language proficiency test) for all of our ELL (English language learners) students and they are off to OSPI. We will get results about the same time as we get results from MSP testing. Tina Moore did a very good job with this task as the long-term substitute for Sally Doss.

The first round of HSPE (high school proficiency exam) reading and writing tests are in the books. (No pun intended!) Everyone involved, Mrs. Landerholm, the counselors and Julie Campbell did a great job of watching the details to provide an errorless administration of these tests! Also, we had the best attendance by our 10th graders that we've ever experienced. Our next round of testing is for the science HSPE that will be on April 12th.

Our "Love and Logic" parenting class for our parents has finished with great success. Parents were so appreciative and moved by the class that almost the entire class donated back their registration deposit to purchase a library of love and logic materials that can be checked out by parents for future use. So… Joni has $795 to create a love and logic support library. We are in the process of trying to offer a second class for parents beginning on April 11th. We are about 1/3 of the way to our enrollment minimum right now.

We just completed our on-line technology assessment of teachers and students. We test our students at the 8th grade level and we had 121 complete the survey/assessment. In addition 66 certificated staff completed a survey on classroom integration and a self-assessment on personal proficiency. Dan and I will present the results and our analysis during the teaching and learning showcase on Tuesday night.

Curriculum adoption work has concluded for the year for all practical purposes. The

final social studies purchase will be for a few maps at the secondary level that we will acquire over the summer for use beginning in the fall. We are looking at the possibility of changing out one of our current 5th grade science kits for one that ESD just developed and Mrs. Bussler tested this fall. Other than those couple of loose ends our focus for the rest of this year will be identifying, recruiting and organizing teams from each building to begin the process of reviewing our current K-12 literacy adoption along with the latest research and state learning goals. Again I will give you a more detailed picture of this Tuesday night along with a window into the process for next year.

Dave.