Teaching and Learning Update April 2011

Testing- We just finished the HSPE (high school proficiency exam) science testing at the high school! This concludes the HSPE testing for the year. They are boxed and shipped! Thank you to Julie Campbell who has done a wonderful job with all of the details around this process. We will be doing the EOC (end of course) assessments for Math A and Math B starting about June 1st. As you are probably aware the state changed graduation requirements so that students need only pass one of these EOC tests to graduate. This is a big win for all of our students in their pursuit of a diploma.

We are beginning the process of preparing our 6th graders to take this year's MSP (measurement of student progress) in reading on-line. This will be the first time we've completed any state testing in this manner. Dan Bentson and crew did a great job of preparing the lab with the software installs and Tammy Brightbill and myself have worked with students to familiarize them with the use of the interface. Once these students are familiar with this format we will continue to use the on-line delivery with them as they progress through the grade levels. By doing this and training each group as they come through this plan should give us a controlled and successful transition to full implementation by the deadline that the state is forecasting.

Curriculum/ Materials Adoption- We have completed the review and approval of all materials for use during this year. We will be reviewing a group of texts over the next eight weeks to select an AP statistics text for next fall. If anyone knows of a community statistician (or closely related field) that you might suggest I contact for involvement in this process, I would appreciate the referral.

The final work in this area for the spring is to identify and confirm members for an organizational meeting around next year's literacy adoption process.

Professional Development- I just completed and sent out my spring/summer professional development needs survey. If you are viewing this review on-line you can click the link below to view the survey.

Survey

I will be facilitating a number of book studies over the summer, many of which are listed on the survey. In addition we will be doing the book titled: Fair Isn't Always Equal by Rick Wormeli. The book titles listed in the survey are predominantly ones that we've read as a leadership group that has helped us form our learning model. If any board member has the inclination or interest in any of these titles I'd welcome your participation, just let me know.

I continue to partner with the Woodland school district and I expect us to welcome a number of their staff in these activities over the summer and many of our staff taking advantage of offerings that they are providing.

CTE (career and technical education)- We've worked out a way to maintain metal and welding class offerings at the high school next year. This is a very good thing for our students. Mr. Pust will be maintaining that program for the immediate future.

ELL- curiously our enrollment has gone up with new student enrollments over the last month. Nothing to be alarmed about but we are now out of time slots within our current model based on

program funding. But…. Tina continues to do a good job at meeting as many students' needs as possible.

With focus on elementary math over the year I thought you might be interested in just what our students in the 5th grade are being asked to master. The link below will take you to a sample 5th grade MSP test, which we are using in our classrooms, that aligns with the state learning objectives. If you have time and are so inclined I'll grade your test for you! You'll need to use firefox or explorer browsers for best results!

5th grade MSP practice test.