Teaching and Learning Update
August 2010

Volunteers- I have been working with Principals, primarily at the K-8 campus to recruit and communicate with new and returning volunteers. The ultimate goal is to increase both the number of volunteer hours spent in classrooms and other areas as well as the effectiveness of those hours. I will be designing and leading a number of volunteer institutes as the year gets underway to help support our volunteers in their work in the classroom. I plan to start with basic issues like, do's and don'ts in the classroom, boundary invasion, confidentiality etc. I will follow this up with actual learning opportunities around questioning techniques, small group instruction, promoting student confidence and expression etc.

Substitutes- Like volunteers, substitutes have a huge, cumulative impact on our learning environments. Last year, substitutes had in excess of 250,000 student contact hours with our students. The goal is to offer a number of seminars for substitutes that will focus on our district learning model which will help them lead quality quadrant one learning environments. Even though we will not be paying substitutes to attend, we will be offering clock hours to help them maintain certification. I believe we may be able to attract the best subs from surrounding districts to bolster our ranks and give us choice in future assignments based on both participation in the seminars and success in the classroom. The first seminar is scheduled for Sept. 2nd from 5-8 pm in the HS library. We already have over 20 substitutes signed up. Anyone who is curious is invited.

HSPE/MSP Testing- I just received access to our grade level reports from OSPI and we are in the process of reviewing all of the results. In general, we made nice improvements in most grade levels and subjects. There are also a few grade level subjects that show a need for continued focused work. That said there are many areas for celebration of success from past focused efforts. I will have a detailed report for you at the November board meeting. At that point in time we will have a full analysis of the results and will likely have plans in place to address the identified goals that evolve from our analysis. The state results will be announced on August 31st. I do not have access to these at this time.

Lab Classroom Project- We had our first LCP summer seminar on 8/10 and our next one is this Thursday, 8/19. We have a total of 50 teachers participating in this professional development opportunity this year. The first seminar was very successful based on participant reviews. Like we expect from our teachers, I will be making minor changes to the 8/19 seminar in response to their experiences

and suggestions. The energy and professional work that is coming out of these seminars and the LCP in general is very exciting.

ACT test score results- Check out the link to this report! Our students did very well scoring well above the state average on the composite index and way, way above the national average. The ACT is, unlike the SAT, generally only taken by the 4 year university bound student. Although we only had 10 students take the test, their scores indicate that this subgroup is achieving at very high levels and is, as "Making Learning Whole" describes, playing well "out of town"!

I have nothing currently to report on title IIa, ESL/ELL, vocational education, curriculum adoptions, igrants, or highly capable.

Thank you, Dave.