

**Assistant Superintendent Report
Region One Schools
February 2020**

Budget

Work continued to refine the 2020-2021 budget. The final proposal for curriculum and professional learning funding will be presented to the Budget Committee in early February. The final plan incorporates feedback from Principals, teachers and the Professional Development and Evaluation Committee (PDEC).

Curriculum and Assessment

Assessment and Reporting

PLC Meetings - Three of the PLCs had productive meetings in January. Highlights from each meeting are as follows:

- Grading Practices
 - Reduced numbers of NYPs in all Pre-K-8 schools;
 - Effective impact of Learning Practices;
 - Middle school math teachers aligning instruction, assessment and student feedback with CT Core standards in grades 4-8. Other disciplines and grade levels will follow with this practice as the curriculum work is completed; and
 - The publication of a public Rubicon Atlas site for parents, students and community members.
- Personalized Learning
 - Teachers report more confidence in embedding Habits of Mind and Social Emotional Learning Concepts in their classroom routines and instruction.
 - A presentation from CEA member Kate Field was well-received by the group and teachers are proposing that the presentation be repeated in their schools.
- Student Data and Its use
 - Consensus on the use of FastBridge as the Region One universal benchmark screening tool (K-12); and
 - Review/revision of the Regional Assessment Calendar for the Pre-K-8 schools - streamlining to reduce assessing time where appropriate.

NGSS Curriculum - Part II of NGSS curriculum professional learning took place for teachers in grades 2-5. Holly Hollander and her team from the CT Science Center met with teachers to help them “unpack” the NGSS units of study for those grades. The Kindergarten and first grade teachers will meet in early March to complete their work.

Smarter Balanced And NGSS Test Preparation - In mid-January I attended a workshop on preparation for the administration of the Smarter Balanced and NGSS (Science) tests held by the State Department of Education. I will be sharing this information with Principals and IT staff later in February.

Professional Learning

January 15/16 Early Dismissal/Late Arrival - Schools continued with building-based PD aligned with their school strategic plans. Much of the work was focused on continued “unpacking” of curriculum and instructional programs.

Instructional Coaching - Coaches met with Mandi Van Dellen, the consultant who helps to support Region One staff in the area of one-on-one teacher professional learning. Two days of coaching workshops took place; one for new coaches and one for veteran coaches.

Teacher Evaluation - Amy Tepper met with the Principal, Assistant Principal, and the teachers who serve as complementary evaluators at HVRHS in mid-January to continue their work on calibrating their observations. This work ensures that there is a common understanding of performance expectations among all of the evaluators.

Ms. Tepper will meet with a group of administrators and teachers at the end of January to review/revise the Continuum for Professional Practice, which is the rubric used to provide feedback to teachers as part of the evaluation process.

Career/Work Experience Program

Progress continues on planning several larger programs as well as meeting with students and teachers about supporting curricular objectives. These include:

- Financial Reality Fair preparation sessions in collaboration with the math department to introduce students to necessary concepts.
- Health Career Shadow Program partnership with Sharon Hospital/Nuvance and EdAdvance for 2020-2021 school year.
- Supporting teachers and students with resources and introductions to community members who can assist with their goals
- Meetings with students to explore careers and support personalized learning, particularly in the Bridges Program

Please click on this link to read Dr. O’Neill’s expanded report.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1drVW_feiAoz26hHj85Ik6vyjmmFKG2ZyVLJA_OpA9mE/edit?ts=5e2b0cd8

English Learner Program Coordination

School	# of ELL Students
HVRHS	6 students (Spanish)
Cornwall Consolidated School	6 students (Spanish, Arabic, Tagalog)
Lee H. Kellogg School	1 student (Spanish)

Kent Center School	2 students (Spanish)
North Canaan Elementary School	11 students (Spanish)
Salisbury Central School	12 students (Arabic, Spanish, Chinese, French/Bulgarian)
Sharon Center School	0 students
TOTAL	38 students

The LAS Links testing has begun. This is the State DOE required assessment that measures EL student progress with regard to command of the English language. Mrs. Huber has spent this month administering the assessment to the EL students at Kent Center, Salisbury Central and Cornwall Consolidated. She will continue testing next month to finish at these schools and begin testing at North Canaan.

A new EL student enrolled in Early Kindergarten at North Canaan. Mrs. Huber has been working with her and her teachers to make a smooth transition into the classroom.

Mrs. Huber held an EL Department Meeting on January 16th. The agenda included planning for the 8th grade EL students' transition into the high school next year. Additionally, the group discussed plans for EL Family Support and Communication and how to implement new strategies and provide resources for those families.