

Teacher Recognition

Since the last Board meeting, two NB teachers have received outside recognition. Dana Rosenquist, NBMS language arts teacher, was named Teacher of the Week by 97 ZOK for the week of October 18. The 97 ZOK Van arrived at NBMS with flowers for her and breakfast for the staff. Deb Torrison, NBHS social studies teacher, received a grant from the Illinois Retired Teachers Associate for the purchase of classroom materials and software to support her World Cultures Course. Her check was presented on October 20, 2010 at NBHS. Attached are the two press releases and the IRTA press release as well. Congratulations to both ladies. They are wonderful exemplars of high performing teachers.

Jane Lenser will be presenting at the Illinois School Library Media Association Conference at Pheasant Run in St. Charles on October 29. I will also be presenting at the conference.

October 1 Enrollment

The official enrollment for the district for the 2010-2011 School Year is 1742 based upon the enrollment on Sept. 30/Oct. 1. The ISBE changed the enrollment number date several years ago, so the Fall Housing Report (which is to use the Oct 1. Enrollment) is the official enrollment for the year. Of those students, 1725 were being served in the district's schools. Fourteen were being served by D100 as part of the Boone County Special Education Cooperative and three were in private settings. The enrollment reports are attached at the end of your packet. Our enrollment has decreased slightly since Oct. 1. The ISBE's fall housing summary shows 1724 students.

Critical Incidents Meeting

We held a joint Critical Incident Plan review meeting with the Boone County Sheriff, Capron Rescue and North Boone Fire Districts #1 & #3. Jake Hubert has taken the lead on making many of the changes that we discussed at that meeting. We will be sending all of the involved entities revised copies for their review shortly and then will be able to disseminate those changes to our staff. The fire departments were present for October fire drills in each school. Those went well with no substantive concerns by the fire departments. SGT Scott Yunk of the BCSD participated in lock down drills at each building last week. We have a few changes to make from those exercises and Jake will revise our plans accordingly. Overall, I feel we are in a good place with our critical incident planning.

Curriculum Committees

The math committee met two weeks ago and is working on sending materials to Pippen Consulting who will be conducting a K-12 math program audit for us as we take a renewed critical look at the math program and work towards making significant improvements for the future. We anticipate that we will get the draft results from the audit in about 6 weeks. Attached are the minutes from the last math committee meeting.

Strategic Plan Review

Currently, I am working on reviewing the progress of the strategic plan with the administrative team. Depending upon the results of that survey, I will have some type of next step

recommendations for the November Board meeting. I might ask the Board and a few others to also complete a survey for me, depending upon the results from the administrative team. One item that has come up is the potential of embracing the PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) System. My understanding is there was interest among the administrative team in the past, but the recommendation didn't make it to the Board. There is no cost to joining the PBIS network. Training costs for participating in various conferences and workshops are minimal and definitely not more than those of similar character education programs.

Teacher Inservices

The majority of the feedback from the Oct. 1 Institute Day was positive. Thanks again to the staff who presented to their peers. The Oct. 13 School Improvement Day was focused on implementation of Common Formative Assessments (CFA). The agendas from each building for the early release days are attached. The December SIP Day will similarly be used for CFA work. The K-6 buildings will most likely work together and the secondary buildings will work by department. This should help bring about a more coherent district curriculum in the long run.

School Report Cards

Attached are the 2010 School Report Cards for the district and all six buildings. They will be posted on the district's website later this week.

Federal & State Funding

Currently, we have received \$92,000 from the federal government from the Education Jobs Funds bill. However, we have received only \$882 from the State of Illinois for this year's reimbursements exclusive of General State Aid, which has been received in a timely manner. The state still owes us approximately \$388,220 from the 2009-2010 School Year.

Power School

We continue to make progress with Power School, but we also have much work to do. Kathy Gustafson has done an exceptional job of making sure the state reports for their Student Information System (SIS) have been accurate. We did make a few modifications to the attendance reporting after the Oct. 1 meeting with the secretarial staff. Still looming are the discipline logs and health data, which we have barely touched to date. We have made some progress, in at least better understanding, how fees are managed in Power School.

Interesting to note, there was some talk a few months ago about how Power School needs to be on a Macintosh server to function well and the fact we used a Windows based machine was a significant part of our problems. However, Pearson told me at that time that they develop the product in a Windows environment and the platform issue was not part of the problem. They recently announced that they will no longer support the Macintosh server version of Power School after Dec. 31 of this year. See attached article from *eSchool News*.

Other Technology Issues

The 19 Smart Boards from COTG were all installed on Oct. 1. The installations went extremely well according to Randy Porter and Jim Novak. Jim felt that these installers were heads and shoulders above the previous installers. Some of the Boards are up and being used. Many are

waiting for recycled laptops from the labs at NBHS. Those should be in place in the next two weeks.

The student response system purchased for NBMS arrived and I had the opportunity to see it in use in Linnea Lerch's 7th grade LA class last week. Both the teacher and the students seemed excited to use the new system.

Tech Care and Randy Porter are still working on the Active Directory issues. The replication issues that we were experiencing have been ameliorated for the most part. We are in the midst of updating the virus protection software. That total project will cost about \$11,000, which was in the Technology Budget presented last month. Randy is working with the library assistants to allow them to do some software installation for staff and reduce the wait time for installation by the IT staff.

The computers approved at the September meeting have arrived and are being installed at NBMS and NBHS. Randy and Jerry have been very pleased to work with PDS. They have done an excellent job and the machines were delivered as expected. There were a few network wiring issues that Randy identified as the new machines were being set up.

Sharon Olds and Jane Lenser will be working with the staff to develop the next Technology Plan for the ISBE. It will be due in June. They will shortly be conducting a home technology survey so that we will have a better idea about what technology resources our students have at home.