

11/22/19 - Weekly Board Notes

Trina Caudle - Collaborative Problem Solving Sessions (CAPSS) Update:

District and CEA teams met on Thursday, November 21st for the second CAPSS meeting of the school year. The meeting was facilitated by **Karina Selby** and **Mike Emory** of Woodland Middle School. During the meeting **Katie Ebner** presented financial information on the Emergency Levy, Units Projection, Building Budgets and the Audit Results. Teams discussed and prioritized topics for the year. The topics in order of priority are as follows:

1. Employee Protection (violent students)
2. Revisiting the Elementary Event MOU Language
3. Classified Staff Pay Scale - Longevity
4. Trail Creek Changes/Alternatives
5. Elementary and Middle School Duty
6. Dual Credit Stipends
7. Annual Principal (Admin) Survey
8. Maximum Credits per Year for Salary Schedule Movement
9. Department Chair Language
10. Teacher Web Pages

Two committees from last year will continue to meet and problem solve solutions. They are the Class Size and the Case Load committees.

The next CAPSS meeting will be December 19th at 4:00 pm in the District Office Training Room.

Kate Orozco - Elementary Updates: Board Notes 11/22/19

ELEMENTARY

More feedback regarding Writing Units of Study

From **Mrs. Gorringer** at Bryan: I am in the midst of my formal observations, and so far I have seen A LOT of lessons from the Units of Study. There is quite a bit of excitement around the program. I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing it in action. It makes me want to write with the kids! Leadership also planned an Educamp around the program for this morning's collaboration. I thought you'd like to know people are digging in.

Thank you again! our young authors are depending on us.





Mudgy and Millie:

I met with **Susan Nipp** this week. Susan's new Mudgy and Millie book (Mudgy and Millie travel to Costa Rica) will be on the shelves in December. Once again, courtesy of **Charlie and Susan Nipp**, the Innovia Foundation, and Figpickles, donations will be made in the spring so that our youngest readers will be given a new Mudgy and Millie book. In addition, Susan will be available to visit elementary schools to read the book and discuss it from the author's perspective. We suspect this will be a big hit this year, given the intense focus in our schools on the new Writing Units of Study.

Social and Emotional Learning. Although we'd like to learn more quickly, We are Learning.

We continue to learn and work together to become better at meeting the emotional and social needs of our children. **Andi West** and **Keith Orchard** have been mentoring, coaching, teaching, advising, and supporting. I am noticing there seems to be increasing numbers of our staff members who are sharing frustration, as they struggle to find the best ways to respond to the challenges created when children dysregulate in class.

We know we will continue to get much better at uncovering our students' emotional needs, reframing our requests and expectations of children, communicating with parents, creating felt safety in our classrooms, etc. There will always be a temptation to "find another placement" for children with great difficulties--until our collective skillset can match the level of need of our children from hard places. In the meantime, we keep inching along toward deeper understanding, better communication, and more compassionate responses to our kids when school and family life overwhelm them. Often when we feel most like our children do not deserve compassion, is when they need it the very most.



Teacher Leader Academy (TLA)

Our teachers in the Teacher Leader Academy continue to learn together, focusing on becoming stronger practitioners in the areas of reading, writing, and thinking. This week the focus of TLA has been planning and preparing for hosting learning visits in two weeks. Our 50 TLA teachers are aspiring to become excellent lab host teachers who inspire other teachers to collectively improve instructional practices. As with all things, our group is learning a great deal, and we would all probably agree that there is still a long way to go.

The solution is not a program; it is a set of common principles and practices relentlessly pursued. Focused practitioners, not programs, drive success. Professionals working together with focus is what counts. (Michael Fullan; The Change Imperative for whole System Reform; 2010)

Kate Keinert - Recruit And Retain Efforts:

Greetings and Happy Thanksgiving!

At the end of October, the instructional coaches and I shared a day of learning with District teachers in their first year or two of teaching. I highlighted the elementary PD in an earlier memo, and the secondary PD also went really well. We have an abundance of secondary teachers fresh out of college who bring great energy, curiosity, and dedication to the profession. Feedback was positive and informative as we plan our January offering. They enjoyed learning together and felt the message (building community through rigor, relevance, and relationships) was timely.

November 8th, **Kate Orozco** and I hosted teams of students in the teacher prep program from the University of Idaho Moscow and Coeur d'Alene. Twenty-two practicum students joined us at Midtown to learn more about our vision for teaching and learning. It was a great day! We visited classrooms, shared lunch with Gizmo's **Matthew Green**, and engaged in a panel discussion with **Nick Lilyquist**, **Crystal Kubista**, **Kelly Ostrom** and **Lisa Loy**, and District leaders. Feedback from Professors **Dr. Anne Kern** (CDA) and **Dr. Vanessa Anthony-Stevens** was extremely positive. They noted that several students called the PD the best practicum experience they've had so far in the program. We are looking at ways to expand our collaboration with U of I, with the goal of recruiting excellent student-teachers who would then be more likely to join our District.

(The photo below is of U of I teacher-prep students from Moscow and CDA campuses)



2019-2020-- MS & HS -- ENTITY ENROLLMENT NUMBERS

As of 11-21-19

	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
CMS	268	301	295					864
LMMS	241	256	219					716
WMS	319	281	307					907
CHS				398	359	349	327	1433
LCHS				454	436	411	358	1659
VHS			0	20	47	46	61	174
JDC		1	1	6	8	7	6	29
TOTAL	828	839	822	878	850	813	752	5782

Pam Westberg - No Board Weekly Notes Published Next Week:

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, there will be no publication of the Board Weekly Notes next week.
Enjoy family and friends during the Thanksgiving Holiday.

