



Scranton Attendance Center

Board of Education Report

December 2014

To: Dr. Steve Pegram, Superintendent & the Board of Education
From: Mrs. Jennifer Hanni, Principal
Date: December 4 2014
Re: December BOE Report

The following is a summary of the progress toward our building and district goals at the Scranton Attendance Center during the month of November. Attached you will also find our parent newsletter that includes additional events and news from our building.

Use Data to Drive Instructional Decisions

This month we will conduct our second benchmarking for all students using AIMSWeb. All students will complete the Oral Reading test, which gauges their reading fluency (rate) and accuracy, the MAZE test, which gauges their reading comprehension, the Mathematics Computation test, which gauges their fluency on math facts, and the Mathematics Concepts and Applications test, which gauges their ability to complete math problems. We will compare these scores to those they completed during late August and report growth and percentage of students working at grade level during the January meeting. We will also use this information to adjust our reading and math tier groups, providing students with the instruction they need to succeed.

In addition to benchmarking using AIMSWeb, students will also be completing some curriculum assessments in the form of unit tests. Staff will be evaluating these scores and looking at the semester's scores to determine areas as a whole that are strengths and areas that as a class they need to improve upon during collaboration sessions. We will then take that information and adjust second semester plans to include additional practice on the skills where students were performing lower.

We continue to monitor and collect data on individual students to gauge whether our plans and interventions are working to help them be more successful. According to our data, we've had 115 positive office referrals and 75 negative office referrals. Most of our issues have occurred at recess, and we are taking steps to lessen those occurrences.

Align and Map Course Curriculums

Teachers have been posting solid objectives using the standards language throughout the semester and have articulated those objectives to the class. They plan to publish their math and reading curriculums on BYOC to the public in late December; I will share details that include what information the site will contain, as well as how to access it. The math curriculum is what we currently teach using the Everyday Math Common Core edition, which we have altered to better match the standards. We will be revisiting this curriculum when we receive the new resource, Everyday Math 4 early this summer. We also have plans to continue to add to our reading curriculum, attaching the science and social studies standards covered in the content of our reading resource, as well as the writing units students currently complete. We hope to have this course completed by the end of the year.

Effectively use our Evaluation Tool

Teachers have met with their goal groups and shared their progress. I will be meeting with each teacher individually throughout this month to discuss their progress thus far and make plans for the following semester. We have also addressed some common weaknesses through staff meetings, including technology integration and classroom management. We will be looking at CHAMPS material on behavioral expectations this month to be sure we are explicit and consistent as we approach the holidays.

Communicate effectively with all Stakeholders

We had solid participation at Parent/Teach Conferences in late October, with 85% of students represented by at least one parent. Positive office referrals continue to come in and I continually remind staff to keep those lines of communication with parents open and positive. Our goal is to have three positive interactions with each student to every negative interaction. We're also continuing to post on Facebook the various classroom activities taking place.

We've seen lots of movement in our reading and math tiers and have communicated that progress to parents. We plan to do the same coming back from break based on benchmarking scores. All reading and math data will be sent home with report cards in early January.

We're continually celebrating successes at SAC, whether it's positive office referrals, improved reading scores, or good choices in the lunch room. We hope to begin celebrating those successes through Dewsley in the coming months.

Develop as Professionals

Staff have been charged with finding ways to observe ideas to support their goals. I've encouraged them to find another teacher doing something they'd like to try and watch them in action. A few have set up appointments and I will continue to provide them the opportunity to do so next semester. Our leadership team discussed the value of staff meetings, and we have decided to call them Building Collaboration instead. During these monthly sessions, we'll debrief on various topics surrounding our Building Improvement Plan including data, drills, and goal attainment.