

Scranton Attendance Center Board of Education Report February 2015

To: Dr. Steve Pegram, Superintendent & the Board of Education

From: Mrs. Jennifer Hanni, Principal

Date: February 4 2015 Re: February 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 January. Attached you will also find our parent newsletter that includes additional events and news from our building.

Use Data to Drive Instructional Decisions

Students finished up their fourth unit in reading in the last week, so we took the unit assessment and the second benchmark assessment to see their growth. Based on these scores, students were able to show growth over the past four weeks as well as advance into the next level group if necessary. Teachers will also use this reading data during their collaboration sessions to plan additional instruction on our lowest standards. In addition, we have continued to progress monitor students during our reading tier time and have introduced new activities during our math tier time to provide instruction on each individual student's level.

Align and Map Course Curriculums

SAC teachers have been hard at work not only entering their curriculum into BYOC, but also ensuring that what they are currently teaching meets the standards. Both grade levels finished up math before break, which are now live, and finished up their reading curriculum in January. We'll wait for approval from the district BYOC committee, and it will go live following review. We will continue this curriculum work throughout February and March with our writing curriculum.

Effectively use our Evaluation Tool

We are finishing up evaluations this month with many observations, walk throughs and professional conversations. It's been great to see teachers try new strategies and focus on improving as professionals. During this month I have witnessed a variety of new technology tools and activities, as well as techniques with classroom management and cooperative learning. At our February building collaboration, we held goal group meetings, where teachers with similar goals shared what they've been working on and ideas to help others in the group. We find this keeps those goals at the forefront and provides some in-house mentoring and sharing to promote positive change and development.

Communicate Effectively with all Stakeholders

We continue to utilize Facebook to promote the activities of our students and the success of our staff. I re-emphasized the importance of sharing these photos with me to post at our building collaboration. We also continue to communicate home, both with positive comments, concerns, and information about academic progress. Teachers have been sharing their ways for keeping track of this communication and charged with the goal of having a ratio of positive to negative contact of 3:1.

Develop as Professionals

While continuing to work toward their goals, teachers have set up several observations to see other educators using strategies that could help them improve in their goal area. Teachers want to improve their use of technology, cooperative learning, and classroom management, and are taking advantage of other teachers in our building who are strong in these areas. In addition, a group of teachers and I will travel to Yates Center to view one of their reading interventions and how they use it to improve student learning. We're also working on another visit from Dr. Coester who will share additional math instruction with teachers.