School Board Report

Windham Elementary School

2-3-2020

**Academic Proficiency:**

-The winter Aims web benchmark testing has been completed. The staff will review the results and use them to guide instruction for the remainder of the year.

-Report cards have been sent home for the first time this year with parents having the option to meet with their teacher to discuss them if needed.

-The current Continuous Improvement Plan is ready for approval by the school board.

**Personalized Learning:**

-The upper grade class has begun working on some SBAC practice tests in preparation for that assessment in the spring. These practice tests are online and also are comprised of performance tasks that have the students working on much longer multi-step problems. The performance tasks test their endurance as much as it does their mathematical knowledge.

-Helena Bundy has been coming monthly to meet with the older students about substance abuse, addiction, and positive life choices. Establishing this relationship with her now will help students be more comfortable using her as a resource when they get to Leland and Gray.

**High Quality Staffing:**

-The grade level teacher meetings will continue this month for teachers to meet with colleagues who teach the same grade levels as they do. This time is often spent working on shared curriculum and experiences for all our schools, as well as being a time for teachers to connect with one another on a personal level. Many teachers in our SU do not have others in their building who teach the same grade levels, so this time can be extremely valuable on a social emotional level for the staff.

-Preparations are about to begin for the process of hiring a new teacher to replace Sally. Mr. PJ hopes to repeat the process of last year that went very well with the hiring of Sara to replace Gail. Sally has submitted her retirement letter to the board, so as soon as town meeting is over and the budget passes, we will place an add for a new elementary teacher. The goal is to have to process completed before the end of the school year.

 **Safe, Healthy Schools:**

-Last Friday we did another shelter in place drill. This time students were in math class when it happened and they did a great job of sheltering down quickly, quietly, and safely to wait for the all clear.

-Later this month we will be doing another fire drill.

-The bus route is being discussed to try and increase efficiency. Kord suggested going south first in the afternoon to even out the time students spend here on a given day, and to have him finish up on the end of town that he lives, which would save some on gas costs.

-Winter sports has been going well to this point with all students participating in either cross country skiing or downhill at Stratton. Jan Wyman has offered to make and bring snacks on a weekly basis for those going to Stratton.

**Financial Efficiencies:**

-The boiler was cleaned and a few parts were replaced on January 30th. It was suggested we replace the boiler this summer. Barrows and Fisher wants to come back this summer to take the whole boiler apart and clean it out properly since it is running at 77% efficiency. The guy who was here said he thinks the boiler may have so much to repair and replace due to age and rust, it could be better to get a new one. I have a copy of the report here.

-The leak in the office has been fixed to stop leaking. However, Roy affirmed our suspicion that the thermostat seems to have no impact on the heat. Thankfully, that does not seem to be an issue that needs addressing at this point.

-Mr. PJ has been working with Elizabeth at central office to investigate some grants for the afterschool program. She has found a few that should be applicable and is planning to submit the first one in the next week or so. If any of these are obtained, it could fund the afterschool program for the entire year, or maybe even two. He and Elizabeth will meet on Tuesday afternoon to begin the process of writing the grant.