School Board Report

Windham Elementary School

10-07-19

**Academic Proficiency:**

-Fall benchmark testing for the Aims Web assessment is finished. Now that these results are final, we will use the progress monitoring process every few weeks to bolster and monitor skills that are weak for individual students. These results are also being used to help determine how time will be used by individual students during skills block. We already have some students reading one on one with an adult during this time to help improve fluency and word attack skills, while others work on times tables, subtraction with regrouping, and typing skills.

-In addition to the Aims Web progress monitoring, the older students are working from the site [http://sampleitems.smarterbalanced.org](http://sampleitems.smarterbalanced.org/) with sample items from the SBAC to help practice some specific ELA skills. There are 33 different practice problems on this platform that are organized by specific target skills such as analysis within or across texts, or summarizing central ideas or key events. Each of these practice items is also connected to a Common Core State Standard as well. So in using these, not only are we practicing for the test in the proper test format, but we are hitting the Common Core Standards at the same time.

**Personalized Learning:**

-The 6th grade trip to Sturbridge Village was another rousing success as an SU-wide trip. Our students worked with other students from across the SU to learn and experience what life was like during colonial times in New England.

-Mrs. Kehoe came to do an art project with the upper grade class on Monday the 23rd. They worked on doing paintings on slate, to maybe be used as a welcome sign for their homes.

-Rob Packard came in the past few Mondays to work with the upper grade class on some science lessons related to wind, water, density, and will culminate with a boat making project. An anonymous donor gave $20.00 per student for them to use on materials to make this model boat based on what Rob taught over the past three weeks. Judging will take place on November 11th by Rob and other staff here at the school.

**High Quality Staffing:**

-The first PLC’s, professional learning community, meetings happened at the end of September. Sally met with the 1-2 group and Mr. PJ with the 5-6 group. These first meetings had various topics such as the new Keys to Literacy approach to language arts, checking in on the trauma work ongoing in each school, goal setting for future meetings later in the year, and just some time to connect with colleagues at your grade level, which is always beneficial.

-Later this month are the grade level meetings for both Sally and Mr. PJ with the director of curriculum Jen McKusick.

**Safe, Healthy Schools:**

-Chris Medina has been working to get some quotes for the work to be done on the heating system and installing the back up circulator, as well as other building related issues. He has received a quote for the fire alarm inspection and fire alarm box inspection. I have that quote here for the board to review. Also, the most recent water testing results are much improved from the spring and seem to show no more problems at this point. Chris is now the point person on this as well, thank goodness!

-The internet was out last week for several days which allowed Sara and I time to do some cleaning and organizing. If you use the bathroom today, you will see one area Sara transformed. Hopefully, Paul is okay with his closet being so organized!

**Financial Efficiencies:**

-Lisa Beshay is here to update about the after-school program pilot. Perhaps we should continue the pilot until Christmas break if not making a decision to finalize this as a year long endeavor.

-Mr. PJ has again been contacted by the Windham County State’s Attorney’s Office to verify the amount of 1,465 dollars of restitution to be paid at some point by the person who broke in to the school a couple years ago. Hopefully, we will see some of or all of this money this year to be used for the sixth grade trip and Camp Keewaydin.

-We are also still waiting to hear about the grant from the Vermont Arts Council for more time from Linda Whelihan here at the school.

-We are planning for a pasta supper at the end of the month to coincide with open house, which is Wednesday, October 30th. Families can come and eat, then go into the classrooms to see what the students have been working on so far this year.