

Elementary Principals Meeting Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Précis

Updates

- SED [Update](#)
- [Information](#) about APPR
- 3-8 Assessments
 - When making the switch to on-line versions, the idea of a phase-in was shared. You could start with 3rd grade next year, then 3 & 4, then 3-5. This way, the students who do the on-line version never know anything different.
 - SED has a [toolkit](#) with some information you can use with families to explain the tests (and possibly impact the refusal numbers)

Meeting Topics

- **Legal Topics w/ David Cirillo, Esq.**
 - Gender identity considerations ([slides](#))
 - Dave reviewed key points from the slides
 - We discussed some situations we've encountered (five of the elementary principals in attendance have wrestled with this issue to some extent, so far)
 - *Becoming Nicole* is the story of twins, one of whom is transgender. Here's the [story](#) from the *Washington Post*, and here's the [link](#) to the book. This was recommended at the meeting.
 - We didn't review these topics, but here are resources for reconciling registration, immunization requirements, undocumented, and McKinney-Vento enrollment expectations ([overview](#) and [slides](#))
- **Roundtable**
 - What are folks doing for ELA?
 - Some modules have been enhanced – look for those ones they seem to be better
 - Considering a switch back to 6+1 to get writing back
 - *Units of Study* is being used by some and is being considered by others
 - *Imagine Learning* does work with struggling learners
 - Pearson's *Reading Street* has a nice parallel "road: for students a little behind
 - We updated the document:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HVCC4MaFiMr_aGRsO4iQhQ8_-UxDusiYUI6PB2SL_28/edit#gid=0
 - SED has prepared a toolkit to help with refusals
- **Share Topic: Assemblies and/or Character Education**
 - Vitamin L (character ed, from Ithaca)

- Jay Banks (Anti-bullying, from Tennessee)
 - Dr. Johns (Respect, from Albany)
 - Squeeze the toothpaste activity
 - Principal's "Book of the Month" connected to each of the ten district character traits
 - Student council plans and conducts the assemblies
 - Grade level teams take turns to plan and deliver assemblies
- **Reynolds Elementary Tour**
 - Thanks, Melissa, for hosting the meeting!

Future meetings (and locations)

- May 12, 2016, Homer Elementary School, 9 Central Park Place, Homer (note: this meeting might be relocated to Homer Intermediate School – stay tuned)