

Elementary Principals Meeting Thursday, May 12, 2016

Précis

Updates

- SED [Update](#)
- [Information](#) about APPR

Meeting Topics

- **Share: New and Good Ideas**
 - Managing APPR
 - Scheduling all required observations for the year up front didn't work as well in practice as they did in some cases, but in others it did.
 - Identifying windows of availability which teachers choose can be a good way to schedule around conflicts and give some teachers the choice in the process.
 - Virgil
 - Student engagement was a focus of the year. Provided specific feedback to teachers targeted to address student engagement: "gold nugget."
 - The "Master Teacher" is a source of small blue cards that can work well for that.
 - McGraw
 - Did something small each day during teacher appreciation week.
 - Did little raffles at each faculty meeting over the year. Books and other tools were well received. "Positive Promotions" was a source of some well-received items. Staff bowling was a hit, too!
 - ONS
 - Has an annual "gift" at the last faculty meeting. Sometimes it is bigger, sometimes smaller. Staff looks forward to it.
 - Marathon
 - Did a district-wide climate survey. Tried to leave more written notes or thank yous, dusting snow off the cars, etc.
 - Deliberately tries to remember something personal about every teacher. Being deliberate served to be effective especially with teachers for whom relationships are harder.
 - Staff floor-hockey games once a week after school!
 - The book "100 Ideas" in the eBook collection has some good ideas.
 - Tried smartboard Pictionary too.
 - Did "[The Great Kindness Challenge](#)" event that has endured beyond the targeted week.
 - Cincinnatus
 - Introduced [Class DoJo](#) to the faculty. Modeled the tool with the faculty as students in a class.
 - Bingo board with the school initiatives as a way to engage staff and keep them thinking about things.

- **Roundtable**
 - Is there anyone who uses Core Knowledge K-2? What are you doing with the students who are falling behind and need to catch up? Conclusion: Need to keep kids at grade-level while adding on.
 - How does your co-teaching look? Common planning for special ed and general ed?
 - What if some of the principals picked a state/national conference to attend together? Share the learning in turn with colleagues?

- **Planning for next year**
 - Frequency
 - Same as last year (4x)
 - Time
 - Same as last year, 9a
 - Location
 - Homer Elementary
 - East Hill Elementary, West Genesee
 - TBD
 - TBD
 - Share and Meeting Topic ideas?
 - Mental Health
 - CETAS, Dominique come?
 - Legal update (custody and staff awareness, McKinney Vento, superintendent hearing for elementary, CPS visits)
 - Co-teaching (1st meeting)
 - Bring co-teaching examples

Future meetings (and locations)

- October 18, 2016, Homer Elementary School
- December 13, 2016, East Hill Elementary, West Genesee
- February 14, 2017, TBD at a school **need volunteer**
- May 16, 2017, TBD at a school **need volunteer**