



# Owen County Schools

*At Owen County Schools, our purpose, our passion, and our work are focused every day on preparing 100% of our students to become college and career ready.*

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## Board of Education Report September 2017

The 2017-2018 academic school year is in session! There are a lot of things happening in our classrooms. We have the implementation of thinking strategies K-8, continuous classroom improvement 9-12, project-based learning at the middle and high schools, and we are focused on active student engagement across the district.

Over the course of the last month, August 17, 2017 - September 13, 2017, I have worked on the following items:

### INSTRUCTIONAL SUPERVISOR

- Dr. Stafford, Heather Alger, and I continue to meet with OVEC to continue our active implementation work as we learn to build systems and processes in what we do. Engage NY continues to be the focus, and we will learn how to apply this process in other areas throughout the district. Maurice Bowling Middle School's Building Implementation Team continues to pilot this work in their math improvement efforts. The District Implementation Team met on August 29th and September 13th. Our next meeting is schedule for September 25th.
- I met with Sarah Page Tuttle on August 17th to discuss character education and the supports needed as we address the holistic needs of our students.
- Owen County Elementary School and their teachers are implementing the thinking strategies training they participated in on May 23-26, 2017. At this time, Mrs. Hubbard and I are following up with instructional walkthroughs to look at implementation of the strategies in the classroom.
- The cohort groups of teachers at MBMS, who participated in Project Based Learning training this summer, has worked hard to develop cross-curricular units in a project format that is designed to be engaging and move teachers to a facilitator's role in the classroom. Topics of units include: water purification, geo-caching, etc. Some of these PBL units are taking place now. At this time, Mrs. Gaines, Mr. Agne, and I are conducting walkthroughs to follow up on implementation in the classroom as well as monitor implementation of thinking strategies in the classroom.
- Owen County High School is focusing on continuous classroom improvement initiatives. Current plans are developed to conduct walkthroughs and work with PLCs as we focus on student engagement and increase varied learning opportunities for students.
- On August 25th, I met with Tina Tipton to discuss funding opportunities and additional funds that are available to Owen County from the kid-FRIENDLY (Race to the Top) grant. Funds are available for some our core curriculum and thinking strategies work.
- On September 11th, I met with OCHS to discuss their Project Lead the Way program and current needs at this time. We also discussed the lab situation and how to move forward to implement the Introduction to Engineering Design programming.
- On September 12th, Heather Alger and I attended the yearly DOSE/OVSO joint meeting at OVEC. We networked and shared ideas of what districts in the region are doing around teaching and



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learning.

- On September 13th, MBMS math teachers met with Cricket McClure and worked on the 8 mathematical teaching practices and how to shift the classroom culture to address these in classroom teaching and learning opportunities.
- I met with Lisa Allen and Carrie Wilhoite to discuss their plans and potential projects for first semester. We discussed Chromebooks, instructional technology resources, and goals for the 2017-2018 school year around training and support. We completed G Suite Training and Google Chromebook trainings with 7th and 8th grade teachers at MBMS to help them enhance instructional technology within the classroom. There will also be follow-up training throughout the school year to help assist teachers with a successful implementation of instructional technology. We will add 5th and 6th grade teachers throughout the 2017-2018 school year. We have also added chromebooks at OCHS now. At this point, the implementation has gone well.
- The first window is almost complete for NWEA MAP testing. We will be reviewing data and building school improvement plans around the academic needs of our students as we focus on continuous improvement and active student engagement.

## **FEDERAL PROGRAMS/GRANTS**

- Kathy Faulkner, program directors, and I continue to meet and close out our local, state, and federal budgets for 2017-2018. At this time, we continue to meet with building principals and bookkeepers to review and monitor our programs. We will be meeting with principals and bookkeepers in August to discuss finalized budgets for 2017-2018 and their implementation plans. At this time, we are determining contingencies around the proposed 17.4% cut in state funds. This affects Flex Focus funds (ESS, Preschool, Gifted/Talented, and PD) as well as FRYSC and other state programs.
- I met with Mr. Kline, Mr. Wainscott, and Mr. Lawson to discuss the Perkins grant and our implementation of Project Lead the Way at Owen County High School this year.
- I also met with the career and technical education teachers at Owen County High School to discuss programming needs, budgets, and career pathway programs that will be implemented this school year. They are assessing programming and developing instructional programming plans. We have a lot of great things going on in career and technical education!
- We have submitted our Perkins budget for the 2017-2018 school year and are waiting for KDE approval. We have also updated the budget in MUNIS to reflect the submission as well.
- We have also submitted our Title I, II, and III budgets this month. At this time, we are waiting on KDE approval.
- I continue to meet with Becky Gibson, Community Education Coordinator, to discuss parent and community engagement efforts that tie to our Title I program. She is in the process of conducting home visits and working with the parents and community as we focus on engagement in our schools.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- The exploration of standards-based grading continues to be researched by our schools. We have implementation going on at the elementary level.



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- Dr. Stafford and I continue to meet to discuss business collaboration, professional development, dual credit, leadership development, and learning opportunities for students and staff. Our goal is to increase learning opportunities for all students in reading and mathematics as we increase the number of our students college and career ready.
- As I have stated before throughout this report and the previous months, we will continue our focus on reading and mathematics with curriculum alignment, professional learning communities, and student engagement through high-impact instructional strategies.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- Work Ready Community Update: Our next Education and Workforce Development Committee meeting will be October 24th. We continue to develop a county plan around work readiness and align our goals with business, education, and government initiatives to come together collectively to prepare individuals to be work ready in Owen County.
- We continue to collaborate with the Owen County Public Library. They continue to provide resources and support in our literacy work. Our next meeting with the Owen County Public Library is in November. As always, they are a great educational partner!
- Dr. Stafford and I are always looking for ways to engage the community and find collaborative partners to work with our schools.