

VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIRTY

Administrative Offices

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Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Valley Stream 30 Community,

Today, I would like to share with you the District's instructional goals that were presented at the 9/21/09 Board meeting:

Goal #1

- Instructional practice in the District is guided by a common framework and language that supports unified practice and collaboration among all staff in improving student learning

Smart goal for 2009-10

- All District instructional initiatives, including mapping, staff development, new teacher orientation, and curriculum adoptions align with Charlotte Danielson's *Framework for Teaching*

Goal #2

- Improve student performance in ELA as measured on district and state assessments

Smart goals for 2009-10

- ELA reading benchmarks to correspond with report card periods grades K-6
- Implement one writing unit from Writing Fundamentals Kit in grades 3, 4 and 5
- Map K-2 ELA Curriculum
- Implement Foundations in grade 2
- Teachers and principals in grades K-6 use data analysis to develop and implement individual action plans for students
- Consistent implementation of Foundations throughout the District
- Implement AIMSweb in grades 4-6

Goal #3

- Ensure Successful continuation of math learning for all students

Smart Goals for 2009-10

- Implement Math Connects in Grades K-6 with requisite professional development support
- Teachers and principals in grades K-6 use data analysis to develop and implement individual action plans for students

Goal #4

- Provide students with a high quality, up-to-date, rigorous Science education

Smart Goal for 2009-10

- By May 2010 Board Meeting, make recommendation for adoption of science materials/program

Goal #5

- Maximize effectiveness of support programs to best meet the needs of students with specialized learning needs

Smart Goals for 2009-10

- All reading teachers have multi-sensory based instructional strategies as part of their toolkit
- Enhance scheduling so that AIS reading support consistently supplements classroom instruction
- Implement AIMSweb in grades 4-6 and ensure effectiveness of continuous progress monitoring in improving student learning
- Refine and implement Response To Intervention (RTI) plan
- Define and articulate current RTI interventions and add new resources to fill in any existing gaps
- Implement literacy support in K
- Complete a comprehensive needs assessment for the instruction of ELLs in the larger contexts of each participating school and district
 - Professional development needs of both ESL and mainstream faculty
 - Alignment to schoolwide and districtwide professional development activities
- Map the K-6 taught ESL curriculum (backward mapping)
- Align the current ESL curriculum to mainstream literacy (reading) and/or content curricula (forward mapping)
- Establish collaborative protocols/frameworks with general education classroom teachers
 - Collaborative planning
 - Collaborative curriculum development
 - Co-teaching
 - SWELL (Sampling Work by ELLs): an adaptation of the Looking at Student Work (LASW) protocol
- Pilot SIOP implementation with one ESL and one mainstream teacher, one each grade level

Goal #6

- Ensure a learning/school environment that meets the needs of the whole child

Smart Goals for 2009-10

- Complete a K-6 Framework for Art, Music and Physical Education
- Create enhanced opportunities for students for physical education/health related activities
- Create monthly enrichment activities for all students through schedule enhancement
- Begin implementation of K-6 Technology Scope and Sequence
- Establish and implement sustainable professional development opportunities that increase teachers' ability to integrate technology into the curriculum on a daily basis
- Pilot Integrated Sustainability Education Unit in at least one fifth grade classroom in each building
- Support one differentiated instruction unit in one primary classroom in each building
- Create and implement a Districtwide focus to PBIS
- All staff have most up-to-date CPI training
- Continue implementation of Peer Mediation Program

(Superintendent Newsletter continued on other side)

Upcoming Dates – Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planning/Future Forward Valley Stream 30 Committee hopes you will come to our Roundtable discussions to give your opinion on what is most important to you and your child, as we plan for Valley Stream 30 in the future. This is an excellent chance to have your voice heard. Come and tell us your priorities.

The meetings will be no longer than 1½ hours. You don't need to go to the meeting in your school building. Each meeting is meant to be districtwide, with people from all three elementary schools attending.

- 10/6 – 9:00 a.m. at Forest Road School
- 10/6 – 3:15 p.m. at Shaw Avenue School
- 10/6 – 7:30 p.m. at Shaw Avenue School (Childcare provided – adult supervision and a movie will be shown)
- 10/17 (Saturday) – 9:00 a.m. at Clear Stream Avenue School (Childcare provided – adult supervision and a movie will be shown).

RSVP to jcarson@vs30.org or call her at 285-9881, x222 or just show up!

Have a good weekend

I wish everyone a good weekend. Please email (ekanas@vs30.org) or call me (285-9881, ext. 222) with any suggestions, comments, questions, etc.

Sincerely,

Elaine Kanas

Elaine Kanas, Ed.D

(Superintendent Newsletter continued on other side)