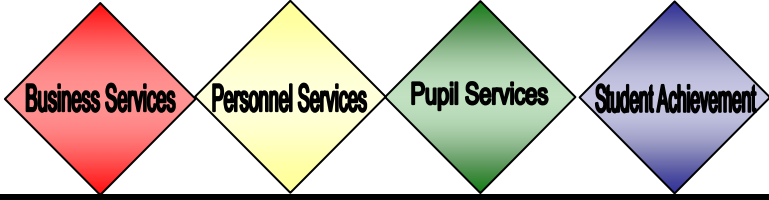




School District of New London



MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Bill Fitzpatrick
 District Administrator
 Date: February 3, 2010

Fifth Grade Move and Four-Year Old Kindergarten

We have had many positive comments, and excitement for the possibility of 4-K and expanded curricular opportunities for our fifth grade students. Kathy and I made the case for change and presented the basic framework of the curricular basis for moving the fifth grade to the Middle School campus and implementing 4-K next year. We are placing a video of the presentation on the staff website so those who had conflicts with yesterday's meeting are able to view it. We have encouraged anyone who may have a question to send it to Bill, and we create a FAQ that will include a uniform response to the questions as they come in. These will be posted to our staff website.

Invitations for an informational session went out to parents of fourth graders and childcare providers, and we did receive a call from the New London Day Care on Wednesday. They had some great questions, which we will add to our list. Although there will be a lot of work ahead to ensure effective communication; the concept seems to be well received.

Below is the timetable for our communication efforts.

Negotiations

We are continuing to gather information necessary to make proposals at the negotiation table. We are gathering comparables and investigating several options related to compensation, insurance and post-retirement benefits. The Support Staff union has asked that we delay negotiations until we have a clearer picture of the budget and its implications. The Teacher union asked that we delay discussions until after their executive committee meeting to be held on February 8. We will have a strategy meeting prior to initiating the negotiation process.

Years-of-Service Awards

We have traditionally presented employees achieving specific levels of employment with the district at a mid-year breakfast held on January 22, which was to be a teacher workday. Since this was the day designated as a furlough day, teachers did not report for work and were not paid for the day.

I have decided to distribute the awards by location. This week I made presentations at Lincoln and Parkview. I have found this type of environment to be preferred. The recipients get to be acknowledged in a less intimidating setting and it provides me with an opportunity to interact on a more personal level with a greater number of employees. I intend to use this format again next year.

2010-11 Instructional Reorganization Timeline		
DATE	NOTIFICATION	ACTIVITY
January 25, 2010		Board/Administrator Retreat
January 29, 2010		Planning Meeting
February 2, 2010	E-mail invitation sent 1/28	Address to Staff
Week of February 8		Faculty Meetings at Buildings
February 9, 2010	Letter invitation sent 2/2	Meeting with Parents of 4 th Grade Students
February 18, 2010	Letter invitation sent 2/2	Meeting with Daycare Providers
February 22, 2010		Special Board of Education Meeting
March 8, 2010		Regular Board of Education Meeting Board approval of the plan
March 22, 2010		Budget Review
April 12, 2010		Staffing Decisions