



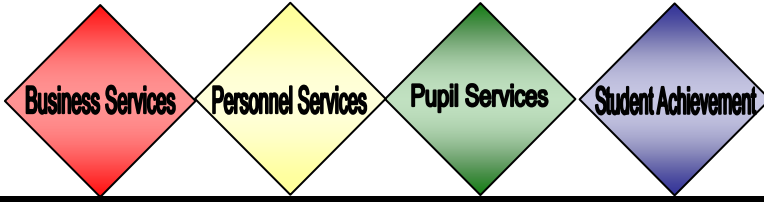
School District of New London

DIVISION

MONTHLY UPDATE

**By: Ann Christopherson
Director of Pupil Services**

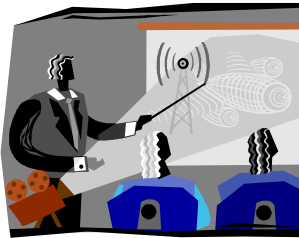
Date: February 2012



SLD Teacher Training

On February 6, 2012, our school psychologists and I gave presentations to teachers in the district with SLD (Specific Learning Disability) licensure. The training focused on needs for staff in meeting the upcoming 12/1/2013 deadline for meeting requirements of identification of students with SLD through an RtI (Response to Intervention) process.

Teachers received their third "installment" in curriculum based measurement in measuring and monitoring student growth. This information is now included in IEPs developed as a plan annually for all children with identified disabilities. It also is a piece that ALL educators will need to be confident in administering. We are furthering the development of special educators to serve as consultant and support to the general education staff as we move forward.



Amy Menchl and Jessica Rice, school psychologists, have also been doing short after school trainings for staff across the district to build all skill sets. Occasionally they also work, one teacher at a time to build our knowledge base of staff. It is progressing at an appropriate rate. We'll certainly be ready for the 2013 -2014 school year.

Civil Rights Data Collection

We received another surprise in the mail in mid-January – another mandatory data collection for the current school year from the U.S. Department of Education (DOE). This time we will be compiling Civil Rights Data Collection information in regard to protected classes. Initial information has been sent in to the DOE, which was to report out on a hierarchy of individuals

within the school district to enforce and respond to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) compliance. Step Two, due in mid-March, is to compile our school district's profile disaggregated by race/ethnicity, sex, limited English proficiency, and disability.

In August and September we move into Step Three. We will report out on bullying/harassment issues from our school regarding protected classes recognized at the federal level. We will also be sharing our information regarding access to educational opportunities in our public schools.

Step Four is the OCR review of our documentation for accuracy and follow through in meeting federal civil rights statutes. This will occur in December 2012 and any compliance issues identified at that time will need to be addressed.

I'll keep you posted on all the fun as the year progresses.

Ms Menning Represents Us in a State Spotlight

Lori Menning, our high school bilingual teacher and district bilingual coordinator serves on the board of a professional organization for teachers of students who speak other languages in Wisconsin. Recently she was invited to participate in a webinar on Thursday, January 26. Lori served as part of a focus group to review score reports for a reading assessment for ELLs (English Language Learners). A teacher from Madison and Lori were invited to participate and represent WI by providing feedback to the Educational Testing Service in collaboration with the National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing at UCLA. Lori provided feedback on a formative reading comprehension assessment for ELLs.