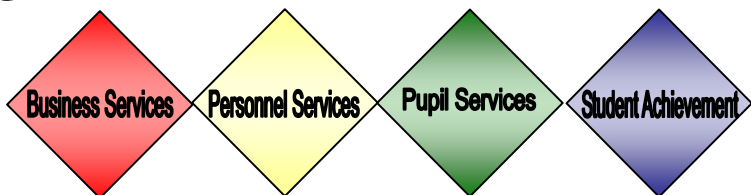




School District of New London



MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Bill Fitzpatrick
District Administrator
Date: July 2009

Governor Signs Budget

For the first time since 1977 the legislature and governor passed a budget bill by July 1. Although the specifics of the bill are now in place, implications for our district will remain unclear for the next few weeks as the DPI begins the process of recalculating the impact by school district. I have included this as a topic for the July 13th meeting.

Technology Proficiencies

We are nearing completion of the Technology Proficiency standards and training modules. These will be posted to our employee website along with tutorials that can be accessed from home or school. Administrators and interested volunteers will be going through the modules and will have access to two open labs (July 30 & August 6) where assistance will be available to those seeking it. A training calendar with specific sessions on early release dates has been established for the year. In addition, voluntary open lab dates where assistance will be made available have also been identified. All administrators and certified staff will be expected to demonstrate competence in this basic level by February 12 of the coming year. Our Library Media and Technology Specialists will take a lead role in helping staff especially as it relates to accessing information via school purchased data bases.

Board/Administrator Summer Planning Session

On June 22 the entire board and administrative team reviewed progress on the Board adopted goals for 2008-2009. Significant progress was noted in each of the five target areas. I have attached a summary assessment of the attainment of the goals set for last year. You can be extremely proud of the accomplishments achieved. The planning session affirmed the goals for the remainder of 2009 with new objectives set for each goal based on the progress to date. These new objectives will be used to create action plans for the coming school year. We will continue to conduct monitoring reports to the community and the Board on a regular basis throughout the course of the academic year. Our next planning session will be conducted in December or January when the goals will again be reviewed and revised as necessary. Based on that review and revision process, the budget development for the following year will attempt to

incorporate the adopted goals and objectives within the confines of revenue limits and available resources. A draft of the updated goals for this school year will be presented at the August televised meeting. This draft will include the new objectives identified at our planning meeting in June.

Staffing for the 2009-2010 School Year

Staffing for the coming year continues to remain in flux. There continue to be changes in the assignment of staff due to recent resignations. These events necessitate changes for current staff and there are implications for those who were on recall. I will review these with the Board in closed session on Monday on a case by case basis regarding specific individual teachers. You will recall that we put a moratorium on several hires while the state legislature and governor hammered out a new budget. Now that more is understood, I am recommending that we proceed with the process of filling those positions at this time so that we will be fully staffed for the start of the school year. We will fill those positions by recall first and then by recruitment. The net impact after filling the recommended positions will remain at a reduction of 5.5 FTE as compared with last year.

Handbooks Ready for Publication with Minor Revisions

Student/Parent handbooks are ready for publication with minor revisions. There is one handbook for all elementary schools and another specific to the secondary schools (middle & high school). Copies will be available on our website. If you would like a hard copy please make your request to Jill. We also will have these handbooks available in a Spanish version for the start of school.

Handbooks are also being updated for Support Staff and Certified Staff. A few revisions were necessary to reflect any changes in policy. These will also be posted on our staff website. Again, if you would like a hard copy please make your request to Jill.