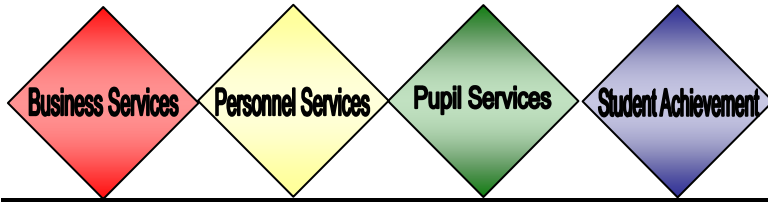




School District of New London



MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Bill Fitzpatrick
District Administrator
Date: June 9, 2010

High School Summit

On Wednesday, June 9, 2010, Joe Pomrening hosted a voluntary summit to engage staff in the design process for determining how our high school becomes a “world class high school.” Twenty-seven members of the staff met with the new high school administration, Joe, Andy Jones and Scott Eggart, as well as Kathy Gwidt, Ann Christopherson and myself. The group was energized and engaged in the process of the components of the four design keys; New Student Learning Experience; New Structures; New Model of Assessment, Data and Personalized Planning; A Sustainable Business Model. Some wanted a step-by step how to prescription of the end. However, because this is a process of *becoming* that will be realized over a five year period, the group was encouraged to understand that the end will be based on the best information, research and best practice that is available but how we arrive at the preferred future will need to be defined by them.

An affinity process was used to generate a long list of items that shape a world class high school and they were captured in general themes that will be used to further develop the plan. They identified stories about how the school will be different on day 1 of next year; what will be different next year at this time; and what will be different five years from now.

The second part of the session included an honest assessment of the current culture of the school as well as a plan and commitment to change the culture in order to increase the likelihood of achieving the desired outcome of becoming the school that we hope to become.

It was a powerful day that did much to bring the staff together around some commonly held beliefs and they left with a sense of hope as well as a commitment to make New London High School the school of choice.

Summer Schedule

I have included a draft of the summer schedule for the administrative staff. I have included the schedule for Board meetings in this document as well. Please mark your calendar for **Monday, August 23 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.** to conduct our Board/Administrator summer planning session. This date was originally set for June 23 but due to a number of conflicts we needed to abandon that date. I am proposing that we have one Board meeting in June, one in July, and our planning session in August will be the special meeting of the Board for August. I would ask that you still reserve the second meeting date in July for a Special Meeting in case there is a

need to conduct Board business. If that need does not materialize, the date will not be used.

Changes in Support Staff

As communicated to you last month, I have notified regular para-educators of the need to re-organize this pool of staff to reduce costs while meeting the critical aspects of the positions. I notified members of this subgroup of the layoff status and met with them on June 9th to explain recall process. We will be recalling members of this subgroup based on the recall language of the contract.

I also began the process of filling the need for cross-training in our district office. I transferred a Secretary 1 (Janel Pittler) to the district office beginning on July 6 to assist with the transition necessary to accommodate the retirement of Gary Zuehlke in August. She has served the district as secretary at Sugar Bush School. She has a two-year accounting degree and previous experience in the Hortonville school district in their district office. The secretary position at Sugar Bush school created by her transfer will be posted with the expectation that it will be filled by the start of summer school on July 12.

We will fill Dick's position by first posting the position in September, interviews in November, with a selection to occur in December. Following a period of assessment with this arrangement, we will determine the next steps in addressing the Human Resource aspect that we have deemed as a necessary but under-resourced department.

CESA 6 Delegate to WASDA

I have been asked to run for the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators (WASDA) representing CESA 6. This responsibility will take me out of the district on several dates during the school year to attend meetings in Madison. Please let me know if you have issues or concerns. The role will be to bring the regional voice to state issues surrounding public education and school administration.