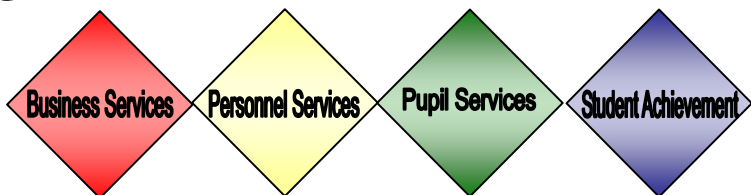




School District of New London



MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Kathy Gwidt
Director of Teaching and Learning
Date: March, 2011



Electronic Grading and Reporting:

We are developing a three-year plan of implementation toward the use of an electronic grading and reporting system that connects graded assignments to clear learning targets.

StandardsScore® is the tool we will be using. It will allow teachers to score to benchmarks and examine patterns and trends so that they use assessment data to guide instruction.

This electronic grading and reporting tool will provide much more specific progress information than we currently have, and it will display parent-friendly summary reports. With access to this tool, teachers can make timely curricular decisions that allow them to address individual student needs. Standard reports will display how individual students or entire classes have performed on any graded/tested standard. StandardsScore® will aid in increasing feedback and communication. Training for the first group of users will begin in the upcoming months.



Dr. Seuss on the Loose at the Washington Center:

Our 4K program highlighted its first collaborative Parent Outreach opportunity on March 2, the birthday of Dr.

Seuss. Classroom teachers and community guests organized interactive centers that engaged students and their families.

Grade 5-6 Science:

Joe Green and I have been working with the 5th and 6th grade science team to ensure learning targets are clearly articulated and understood.

Grade 5 units include:

- Forces and Motion
- Animal Classification
- Human Growth and Development
- Weather
- Earth and Space Science

Grade 6 units include:

- Structure of Matter and Chemical Properties
- Environmental Science
- Plant Classification
- Microorganisms, Fungi and Plants
- Human Body

Units have been reviewed, revised and made available in hard copy and electronic formats.

Math Expressions Continuum:

We have recently used Early Release opportunities to identify how students in kindergarten through fifth grade identify and develop number sense and algebraic reasoning. Each grade level designed a presentation and used manipulatives, models and technology to demonstrate student understanding. Presentations provided an opportunity for K-8 teachers to see how conceptual knowledge develops. It helped all of us to better understand the big picture of the mathematics program and how we can assist the students of the School District of New London become mathematically proficient.

