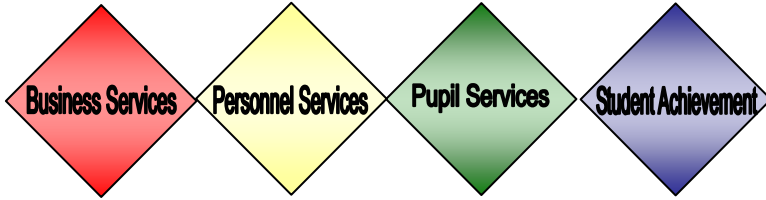




School District of New London

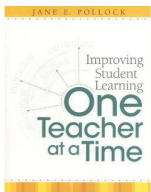


MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Kathy Gwidt

Director of Teaching and Learning

Date: October, 2010



Professional Development:

Over the past two years we have established a relationship with well-known educational researcher and author **Dr. Jane Pollock**. On various professional development days teachers and administrators have collaborated with her through keynote presentations and smaller group workshops. In her book, *Improving Student Learning One Teacher at a Time*, she introduced us to the four principles that, as educators, we can employ to improve student learning: curriculum, instruction, assessment and feedback.

During the 2010-11 school year we will continue our work to ensure clear learning targets in all curricular areas and implement high-yield instructional strategies that will improve student achievement.

This is where we have focused our collaboration and school improvement efforts. We have established a vision of how we will improve as teachers, administrators, and as a learning community.



Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE):

Testing materials have been delivered to the district, and will be distributed to schools in the upcoming week. The assessment window for the 2010-11 school year runs from October 25-November 26. Test security meetings are being held to ensure we comply with assessment requirements and that we provide an appropriate testing environment for students who will be assessed in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10.

Mission Leadership Team (MLT):

Action Teams have been collaborating since the start of the school year. These teams and objectives include:

Response to Intervention (RtI):

- Continue efforts to ensure effective implementation of RtI
- Research the role of retention and establish consistent protocols to include policy implications

Four-Year Old Kindergarten:

- Communicate and promote 4K
- Provide effective transition between 4K and 5K

Assessment:

- Identify primary needs
- Implement and sustain consistent assessment practices

Instructional Strategies:

- Continue efforts to ensure effective implementation of the strategies and instructional framework (GANAG)
- Determine and implement professional development opportunities

Electronic Grading and Reporting:

- Identify professional development needs
- Monitor implementation

Career Academies/Project-Based Learning:

- Define 'Career Academies'
- Implement opportunities for project-based learning

Emergency Management Recovery:

- Prioritize needs, risks, and vulnerabilities prior to the development of school safety plans.

