

# Superintendent's Corner

Everyone **A**chieving **G**oals and **L**earning **E**xpectations **S**uccessfully

## The Week in Review

Overall, last week was a good week for kids, teachers, and everyone else at Maries R-I. Our hearts go out to the Hollis and the Combs families over their losses. We are here for you. As I looked in from the halls this week, I noticed cooperative learning using student groups happening in several classrooms. Co-operative learning provides opportunities for peer-tutoring, gaining collaborative skills, self-assessment, and differentiated instruction. In other classrooms, students were presenting project-based results, problem-solving, and engaging in brainstorming. All of these are



effective ways to increase student engagement. Last week Renaissance Learning completed setting up our Star 360 and Accelerated Math website. They have all the passwords needed, including kids, teachers, and administrators for students in grades K-8. Re-

member, Star 360 is a tool for math and reading assessment. Accelerated Math provides reinforcement and practice for kids at all skills levels. For teachers not in the K-8 group, we will be providing software support for you also.

## The Week Ahead

With this newsletter released later in the week, this is mostly week in review. Nevertheless, here are a few items.

The planning conference for the Renaissance training next week is scheduled

for today. We have a visit from KRCG TV scheduled for tomorrow. The plan to do some filming, a brief tour of the District and an interview with me concerning school transportation

funding. Its always good to have a chance to show off our school.

## Highlights in Learning

The following is an excerpt from the Missouri Professional Learning Communities about the Exemplary PLC School Recognition Process:

“The path Exemplary PLC School status involves implementing the components of Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s) with fidelity, leading to increased student achievement. To be considered for this award, the following criteria must be met in the appropriate timeline to provide clarity to the selection committee about the practices, structure, and culture of your school. To receive this recognition, a school must:

- Complete the staff perceptual survey (MO PLC Benchmark Assessment) administered by PLC Data/Web Coordinator.
- Complete the PLC Implementation as a self-assessment including electronic artifacts supporting the assessment.
- Meet achievement level performance guidelines as set for the by the MSIP 5 achievement standards by: *scoring a minimum of “On Track” in each of the achievement categories (ELA total and subgroup, Math total and subgroup) through status, progress, or growth (if the growth category is*

*used to meet this criteria, growth must be labeled significant (S).*

- *Earning 85% or greater of total points (at least 34 out of 40) will be reviewed by MO PLC .*
- *Submit evidence of increased student achievement during the previous three years, (part of application, following review of state data)*
- The school will participate in an On-Site Review the spring prior to, or early fall of the year in which the school is being considered. The school must receive exemplary scores (proficient or deep) on all indicators of the Missouri Professional Learning Communities Implementation Rubric. (in some cases, the Implementation Rubric will be required to make a preliminary justification that a site review is warranted).

The building principles and I will meet with Connie Schweiss of the Rolla RPDC next Monday to develop a plan that can be used for each of our schools.

Just a reminder, K-8 teachers plus some of the math teachers will attend a training for Star 360 and Accelerated Math on Wednesday the 22nd from



2:00 until 5:00. There will be food (pizza, salad, tea and soft drinks) available in the TLC while we train because of the length of the training.

Thanks again for everything that you do.

### NOTABLE QUOTE

“My role, as teacher, is to evaluate the effect I have on my students.” - John A.C. Hattie