

## Sept 2017 Principal's Report- John Cline

### Intro

#### **Safety, Security and an Orderly, Welcoming Environment**

With building security and student safety of paramount importance, we have worked on increasing supervision and keeping the building secure. We are very pleased with the commitment from all and the positive results that we have seen.

#### **Enrollment Increase**

Today, 9-8-17, we are at 1389 with 9<sup>th</sup> grade class of 387. As of July 5<sup>th</sup>, 51 district permits were issued for students to attend Washington. Of the 51, 24 were from students residing within the Kennedy boundaries. In addition, our autism program has added a new class and we have 53 new ELL students.

#### **New Staff and Changes**

Andrew Steffen(Orchestra), Cara Delaney (Math), Zachary Smith (ELL), Scott Halapua (Security), Gina Pins (Learning Supports Facilitator – new position), David Kelly (Special Education), Angela Harger (English), Katterin Scott (Engagement Specialist – new position), Amanda Duffey (Science), Ronda Harriot (Receptionist), Josh Eaton (Project Lead The Way-split McK), Ian Kleman (Instructional Design Strategist-change), Julie Cain (Social Emotional Behavior Curriculum Facilitator-new position). Melissa Jaynes (Principal's Secretary-change), Amanda Schumacher (Assistant Principals' Secretary-change)

#### **Warrior Time**

Warrior Time takes place from 1:42-2:08 (end of 6<sup>th</sup> period) M-Th. Warrior Time provides opportunity for students to get extra help during the school day. Students who would like extra help may, in advance, ask for a Warrior Time pass from the respective teacher. Teachers, also, may initiate Warrior Time passes to students in order to provide support or enrichment during the Warrior Time period.

#### **Concurrent Enrollment, New Classes, AP Enrollment**

We have 61 students taking college level coursework through Kirkwood on campus in the concurrent enrollment program. Composition 1,2, US Hist to 1877, US Hist from 1877 and digital imaging are all concurrent enrollment classes that are offered and these provide another option for students to pursue college level coursework. In these classes, students can earn college credits, putting them ahead and saving their families' money. We continue to support and foster high Advanced Placement Participation with enrollment at 1207 this year. We continue to encourage students to push themselves with upper level coursework and have done targeted work to identify and recruit students that show readiness. As we move forward, we will look at increased individual and systemic plans of helping promote success in these courses. This year, we have also added several new other classes that we are very excited about: African-American Literature, African-American History, Philosophy and Sociology.

### **Leadership Restructuring**

Mr. Ballard will continue to work on facilities management and budget. New this year, he will be responsible for the Math, Science and World Language Departments. Discipline, academic monitoring, tracking and support of 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will also fall under his leadership responsibility. Dr. Nyberg will continue to be responsible for the master schedule and Special Education Department. She will also oversee the English, ELL, Social Studies and CTE Departments. Her student caseload will be 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders (discipline, academic monitoring, tracking, support) Mr. Schultz will continue in his role as Activities Director and oversight of Physical Education. In addition, he will have responsibility for Driver's Ed, Visual and Performing Arts. In his role, he will also assist with discipline, academic monitoring, tracking and support of student-athletes.

### **Common Preps - Focus Areas**

This year, we have identified focus areas for collaboration and support and instructors in each of these areas have common planning: Earth Science, Biology, English 9, English 10, Algebra I and Biology. Our administrative and IDS team will have laser like focus on helping to grow these PLCs in order to meet the needs of all students.

### **Student Supports Structure**

Engagement specialists are dedicated by grade level and supported by Learning Supports Facilitator and dedicated administrative support. The structure provides aligned academic and behavior support to students. Our SEB Coordinator is heading up a team to assist classroom teachers with installing and improving interventions strategies in the classroom. The new Learning Supports Team is proactively communicating with classroom teachers based on predetermined thresholds being met to transition students into a dedicated support system.

### **Mindfulness and Meditation Session during PL Time**

Jane Hutchins has been kind enough to come in and lead our staff through a Mindfulness and Meditation session Friday, 9/8 from 2-3:00 p.m. We had 41 staff members sign up for it and have had a very positive response to this. We are both looking at this as an opportunity to promote staff wellness and to potentially bring it to students to help center them on academics.

### **PRIDE Program**

In Spring 2016, students were identified that weren't getting what they needed in Warrior time in terms of supports. A committee was pulled together to help these students. MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) was started in fall of 2016 with Tier 3 supports. Later, a Tier 2 support program was developed and by early spring of 2017, a Tier 1 system was considered and the PRIDE program was brought before the BLT. In May, PRIDE acronym was developed by staff: Preparation, Responsibility, Integrity, Dedication and Etiquette. This summer, our team developed expectations for the classroom, hallway, bathroom, cafeteria and media center. Homeroom teachers started on day with a lesson on PRIDE and this was followed with three days of instruction on expectations around a certain area. On August 30<sup>th</sup>, a survey went out to homerooms and Student Senate is entering data and we will use it to plan continued PRIDE

programming. Our Tier 1 group (Jordan Young, Amy Faulkner, Renate Bernstein) will be instrumental in next steps.

### **Professional Learning Communities at Work Institute**

Jordan Young, Julie Cain, Jen Fishwild, Kayla Martin, Jackie Niffenegger, Valerie Nyberg, Kristin Mangrich, Kiley Boesenberg and I attended the PLC at Work Institute in Lincolnshire, IL. As we grow our collaborative culture in the building, PLCs will be the lifeblood support model for faculty. Our IDS team, interested teachers and I will be working with core academic areas to help them with collaborating in a way that is synergistic and provides quality instruction of a guaranteed and viable curriculum in every classroom.

### **BLT**

We had a productive meeting on July 24<sup>th</sup> to work on the School Improvement Plan. A lot of reflection and positive discussion took place. The SIP is a continuation of last year's focus on behavior and planning for instruction of the PRIDE program took place to effectively teach and reinforce positive behavior in the building.

### **Marzano - The New Art and Science of Teaching**

Traci Mooney-Shaffer, Jackie Niffenegger, Bill Lammers, Valerie Nyberg, Darius Ballard, Julie Cain, Sarah Swayze, Grant Schultz, Jen Brown and I attended this workshop which centered around Marzano's newest book which, in its instructional design framework, features 3 categories (Feedback, Content and Context), 10 design questions and 43 elements. Marzano's framework provides a platform for collaboration and academic coaching in our building.

### **Homecoming**

Homecoming week is coming up and Ms. Derrick and Student Senate have been doing a lot of prep work. Tuesday, we will have our second assembly of the year; Wednesday, the parade and bonfire; Thursday the football game and crowning and Friday, the dance. We have planned some changes to increase security at the homecoming dance and look forward to a fun week.

### **Student Center and Main Office**

We are working on a plan to make the main office design more welcoming and demonstrative of Washington Pride. In addition, we have students working on a plan to renovate the Student Center (room 128) in order to make it an attractive multi-purpose space for students to study, hold meetings, work on projects, etc. This project would make it a true student-centered space and provide a unique positive differentiator for our campus.