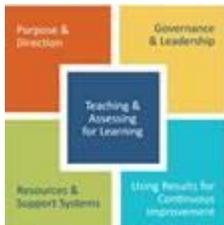




# WEEKLY LEADERSHIP CONNECTION

Friday, October 16, 2015



● **ACCREDITATION TIP**

Administrators, self-evaluation is key to continuous improvement. The district, as well as schools, must self-evaluate periodically to identify processes and procedures that are working and need improving. The more we encourage continuous improvement, the more we will see student achievement increase. More importantly, we will maximize resources through self-evaluations.



● **DISTRICT MESSAGE**

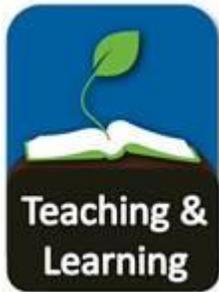
**A constant speed does not help us cross the finish line.** As we conveyed to the Board of Education at the monthly board meeting on Wednesday, if we stay where we are currently, we actually fall backwards. Everyone should be proud of the district’s achievement during the 2014-2015 school year; however, we must also realize that we have a lot of work to do in order meet even higher expectations. This is not the time to slow down, but instead, to switch gears, to obtain more horsepower.

The next several months are critical to our success as a school district. The success of the school district is determined by the success of each school becoming a “School of Distinction.” All of our schools have crossed the 60 point line, now we must be strategic and have a laser focus on students who continue to struggle academically. As school administrators, we must work with teachers to figure out the right formula that will propel students to the next achievement level. A piece of this formula is empowerment. We must empower our teachers to move student achievement higher. As we empower we must not abandon, as we must remain involved in the process – assisting teachers in locating resources, contacting parents, encourage students and even modeling expectations throughout the school.

Evaluate your school with your teachers and see where your school is currently, using last year as the benchmark. What gaps exists in regards to instruction and even instructional leadership. Is teaching and learning still the main focus of the school or has noise derailed your school’s plans? Work with your teacher leaders to develop a strategic plan (school improvement plan) that: addresses the gaps, remove barriers and bulldozes through walls.

We have a large number of teachers who are rock stars and we need to empower them this year to reach our academic goals. Look for ways to empower our teachers to be leaders in our schools. As our vision is to become a “District of Distinction,” do teachers have strategies that can help us achieve this goal? Do teachers have strategies that can assist the district in raising student achievement? Do teachers have ideas that can help the district to reduce the number of novice students? As school administrators, we must invite our best teachers to the table and begin a dialogue that seeks to empower our teachers to be great for students each day. Begin thinking about how we empower teachers to be instructional experts, student achievement experts, teacher leaders. Teacher leaders are critical to our success as a school district!

Lastly, follow me on Twitter at [#FCSSuper](#) where you can receive information, snapshots of events, or even “I Gotcha Moments.” Below, WES clearly communicates the Mission and Vision statements by posting a banner at the entrance of the school. Each day, students, teachers and parents see the expectation. Great job!



● **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

The first benchmark assessment has been completed at all schools and the results from Case21 are ready. The results will be shared with principals through OneDrive over the weekend. It is important for leadership and teachers to analyze this data closely to see where students are based on standards and address any needs or deficiencies uncovered. While Case21 provides the extended response items as part of our benchmark assessment, they do not score them. If schools have not already done so, the extended response items need to be analyzed/scored according to the protocol that the school sets in order to meet their needs. In addition to the multiple choice items, these extended response items can provide valuable information for teachers about student understanding of content and their ability to communicate in writing.

Feedback (plus/delta) about the first benchmark, collected from teachers, should be sent to Lesia Eldridge by the end of this week (in Word format, please).

Representatives from the district attended a training/work session about the new Equity Plan this week. The Equity Plan is a new requirement for all schools and districts to be submitted with the CSIP/CDIP (due on Jan. 2). More information will be shared with principals in a follow-up email and at the next principals' meeting.



● **TECHNOLOGY**

The technology staff has been replacing teacher workstations at Hillsboro Elementary this week in addition to responding to the technology requests in the ticketing system. A KEDC walkthrough was completed at FCHS to finalize the plan for wiring for additional wireless access points. The tentative start date for their portion of the project is Monday, October 19th, with a goal of finishing the wiring within one week. This work will be completed after school hours to minimize any disruptions to instruction, and the crew plans to work around any after-school activities as well.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

▪	<b>Monday, October 19, 2015</b>	District Team Meeting at 9:00 am (Board Room)
▪	<b>Monday, October 19, 2015</b>	Senior Leadership Team Meeting at 10:00 am (Board Room)
▪	<b>Monday, October 19, 2015</b>	Induction Follow-Up at 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm (Board Room)
▪	<b>Wednesday, October 21, 2015</b>	Unity Day, Together Against Bullying – Wear Orange (All Day)(District)
▪	<b>Thursday, October 22, 2015</b>	FCS Transportation Meeting at 8:30 am (Board Room)
▪	<b>Thursday, October 22, 2015</b>	FCS Communication Meeting at 4:00 pm (Board Room)
▪	<b>Thursday, October 22, 2015</b>	NBCT Cohort at 4:00 pm (Fleming Co. High School)
▪	<b>Friday, October 23, 2015</b>	SMS KPREP Recognition Ceremony

**Our Vision is to become a “District of Distinction”**