

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

Mentoring

We continue our commitment to creating a systemic and targeted mentoring program with the support of Dr. Peterson (<https://www.vpul.upenn.edu/makuu/MakuuStaff.php>), (<https://africana.sas.upenn.edu/people/brian-peterson>).

Dr. Peterson met this week with HS representatives (Dr. Hammond, Mr. Joseph, and Ms. Nina Gordon) to coordinate student selection at CHS. After these meetings, we will have a better sense of the mentoring landscape and a direction on how to best utilize parents and community groups that want to mentor. Mentoring activities will begin in October. The recruitment of Black Men United (BMU) students from Penn to be a part of ongoing mentoring has started, and we are making connections with the black women's group Sister Sister at Penn as well.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 4: Holistic Experiences*.

PENN-Cheltenham Partnership

We have partnered with four distinguished educators from the UPENN to assist in the implementation of our Strategic Plan. Dr. Smith met with Drs. Nakkula, Watts, and Stevenson (<http://scholar.gse.upenn.edu/watts> <http://scholar.gse.upenn.edu/nakkula> <http://scholar.gse.upenn.edu/stevenson>). Their collective expertise will better help us create a sustainable framework for improvement. We have targeted the high school students and staff as the first phase of this work that will begin in October. The following items were discussed during the meeting:

- Greater Access to AP, Honors classes for students of color
- Support for incoming CHS students
- Increased services for students and resources for staff
- Targeted, efficient, and effective services for students with serious academic or social/emotional needs
- Improved cultural understanding and engagement with diverse student body
- Developing student agency in planning for the future
- Improved cultural proficiency, communication, and relationships with a diverse student body
- College Ready
- Peer Mentoring
- Possibility Development
- Establishing partnership network/connections
- Assessing implementation and outcomes of services for high-need students

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 3: Professional Learning*.



ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT UPDATES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

Innovation Video Series

Mr. Brandon Lutz, Supervisor of Instructional Technology and Data Analysis worked with the Office of Innovation to put out their third video on Tuesday. Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/RYw5CBm6VBs>

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 5: Communication and Engagement*

Professional Learning

Mr. Matt Pimental, Supervisor of Gifted and Professional Learning, along with the curriculum office, has finalized our October and November Professional Learning days for our staff. For October, the day will be split so that half of the day will be a keynote address from George Couros, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZQKD83rsPw> , <https://georgecouros.ca/blog/about-me>) a leading expert in innovation in schools, and the other half of the day for Race & Equity sessions led by Dr. Michael, Dr. Stevenson, Dr. BMW, Dr. Miller, and Dr. Guzofsky.

This work is aligned to our *Strategic Plan Pathway 3: Professional Learning*

Gifted

We are excited to continue our partnership this year with Dr. Ford (<https://peabody.vanderbilt.edu/bio/donna-ford>). Dr. Ford has confirmed that she will be returning to Cheltenham School District, final dates TBD, to work with our Challenge Consultants and Psychologists on the application of a new gifted recruitment protocol designed to address issues of equity in relationship to identification data. K-12 Challenge Consultants have met and worked in small groups this week to further advance our overhaul of the GIEP writing process to ensure legal compliance and to streamline the process to increase teacher preparation time for students. CHS Challenge Consultants engaged in a conversation to find opportunities to increase student involvement and Cheltenham School District's presence at a variety of STEM-related student showcase events throughout PA.

This work is aligned to our *Strategic Plan Pathway 3: Professional Learning*

Special Education Department

Ms. Christina Lewis, Supervisor of Elementary Special Education; Stephenie Russell, Secondary Supervisor of Special Education; and Beverly Gallagher, Director of Special Education met with a sales consultant from Winsor Learning about a multisensory reading program called Sondag System <http://www.winsorlearning.com/products/sonday-system-1/>. The Special Education Department is investigating research-based programs to be used as interventions for students identified with a skill deficit in reading. Sondag System uses an Orton-Gillingham <https://www.orton-gillingham.com/> approach that primarily focuses on decoding skills.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 2: Student Achievement*.

PA Post School-Outcome Survey

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA), Part B State Performance Plan, states are required to develop a six-year plan to measure their work towards federally identified Indicators of compliance and performance, designed to improve the education of students with disabilities. Indicator 14 is one of the 20 State Performance Plan (SPP) Indicators, and focuses on the secondary transition mandate by which each state is to determine, for the state as a whole, the extent to which students are achieving transition outcomes one year after exiting high school as stated in their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) (Indicator 14).



ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT UPDATES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

To meet this federal reporting requirement, once over a five-year period, each Local Education Agency (LEA) is required to survey all student leavers (graduates, dropouts, and students who age out) who had IEPs. The Pennsylvania Post-School Outcome Surveys (PaPOS) will be used to gather this data. The random sampling process used to assign LEA to one of the five years in each cycle ensures that the LEAs selected each year will be representative of the state as a whole about district size, disability category, ethnicity, LRE status, gender and exiting status. Cheltenham was required to survey 45 graduates from June 2016. The deadline for submission is September 29, 2017. Mr. Gus Ekhardt, Transition Coordinator, and Ms. Stephenie Russell, Supervisor, completed the survey with the 45 graduates on September 20, 2017.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 2: Student Achievement*.

Guidance

Chapter 339 <http://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/PACareerStandards/Resources/Pages/339CounselingPlan.aspx-#tab-1> requires all school districts to have a K-12 School Counseling Plan. Ms. Collins, Director of Secondary Education; Dr. Realdine, Supervisor of Counseling, Holistic Supports and K-12 Testing; Lori Cohen (CHS Counselor); and Lauren Fischer (CBK Counselor) attended the Chapter 339 training at the MCIU. This is a six-part training program to support districts in developing a K-12 Comprehensive College and Career Readiness Guidance Plan. Chapter 339 requires each district to develop a K-12 Guidance Plan that is Board approved.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 2: Curriculum and Instruction*

Elementary Literacy

Strategic Learning Partners writing instruction consultant, Andy Fishman, met with the First, Second, Third, and Fourth-grade teacher writing teams to provide training on the new curriculum units.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 1: Curriculum and Instruction*

CLASP Before and After School Program

The CLASP program is off to a great start. We have record numbers of students attending with enrollment at 505 students. Ms. Margaret McManus, Supervisor of CLASP and her staff are working diligently to provide a well-rounded experience for the students they serve.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 4: Holistic Experiences and Pathway 2: Student Achievement*

Delaware Valley Consortium for Equity and Excellence (DVCEE)

<http://www.gse.upenn.edu/pcel/programs/leei/projects>

Ms. Collins, Director of Secondary Education, attended the Engaging and Teaching Diverse Learners workshop hosted by the Delaware Valley Consortium for Excellence & Equity (DVCEE). The facilitator discussed the importance for teachers setting the stage for student learning by making learning goals visible and engaging students in the demonstration of goal attainment. Also, she provided strategies to utilize during instruction to create an active learning environment. She also discussed the need to assess prerequisite skills for topics of learning and using Intervention/Enrichment periods to provide students with the skills needed to allow students to meet with success during the lesson. We will incorporate these strategies in professional learning opportunities for teachers and within our curriculum documents.

This work is aligned to our *Strategic Plan Pathway 3: Professional Learning*



ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT UPDATES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

Engineering at CHS

Dr. Reilly, Supervisor of STEM, met with Paul DeSipio (CHS teacher) to discuss plans for moving the Engineering program forward at CHS. Two new courses will be introduced next year: Robotics and Engineering Design and Manufacturing. The Design and Manufacturing course will be a follow-up to the Foundations course, while the Robotics course could be considered a standalone course or an extension of the Foundations course. The MCIU is offering workshops on coding that could be beneficial for our teachers as they plan for this new course.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 1: Curriculum and Instruction*

Cedarbrook Construction

Meetings were held this week with representatives Boro and Turner Construction <http://www.turnerconstruction.com/> <http://www.boroconstruction.com/> to discuss the long-standing issues that continue to delay the Cedarbrook Project. Boro Construction has documented what they believe to be five core issues (NPDES Permits, Damaged existing structural steel, Elevator/contaminated soil, owner change orders, unsuitable soil removal and request for information and allowances) that have impacted the CBK schedule. At our next Facilities meeting on Oct. 3, the Vice President of Turner Construction will present to the board these ongoing issues and projected completion date.

Staffing

Interviews to fill the position of Safety and Security Manager and the Director of Human Resources have been underway and a second round of interviews are scheduled.

WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 6, 2017

Google Leadership Summit

Mr. Brandon Lutz, Supervisor of Instructional Technology and Data Analysis and Lisa Rock, Technical Staff Developer, attended the Google Leadership Summit. While there, they were able to attend round table discussions on various topics from Makerspaces to 1 to 1. Our very own Mr. Lutz led a session on "Balancing Technology Use for Students and Teachers."

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 1: Curriculum and Instruction*

PBL - Design Thinking

Dr. Reilly, Supervisor of STEM and Mr. Pimental, Supervisor of Gifted and Professional Learning lead a 4-hour professional learning session for the 9th grade PBL teachers. The session was interactive and focused on Design Thinking, where the teachers engaged in the process developed by Stanford University's Design School. Design Thinking has been identified as the backbone to innovative teaching and learning, and PBL will serve as an ideal starting point for its implementation.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 3: Professional Learning*

Presentation at Standards Aligned System (SAS)

Dr. Reilly, Supervisor of STEM was notified that our proposal to present on the PBL pilot at CHS was approved for



ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT UPDATES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

the 2017 PDE SAS conference. This year's conference is titled "Innovative Students ... Innovative Educators" and will take place December 3-6, 2017.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 5: Communications and Engagement*

7-12 Literacy

Ms. Collins, Director of Secondary Education, met with Peggy Cooper (CBK teacher) and Keziah LaTorre (HS teacher) to discuss the use of Kylene Beers and Bob Provoost's Notice and Note Nonfiction within the 7-12 Literacy classrooms. Notice and Note provides strategies for students to engage with text and make connections for deeper analysis. As we move forward in developing curriculum units, we will include these strategies for the facilitation of concepts.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 1: Curriculum and Instruction*

Montgomery County Language Arts Council (MCLAC)

Ms. Collins, Director of Secondary Education attended the MCLAC meeting at the Montgomery County IU. The IU shared that the state will be releasing a new comprehensive literacy plan. The release was intended for the fall but has been delayed. The ELA Assessment Community on the Standards Aligned System (SAS) <https://www.pdesas.org/> is the way that PDE shares new information about updates to assessments. Participants were encouraged to attend additional PVAAS training due to the changes in reports to better support teachers' use of the data.

The IU will host a series of workshops for content area teachers to learn strategies for working with English Language Learners. Ms. Collins will select a team from CBK and CHS to attend. The IU shared the updated Basic Education Circular for English Language Development (ELD) instruction based upon ESSA. They emphasized that ELD cannot take the place of an ELA class unless the instruction is aligned to the PA Core Standards throughout the year.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 1: Curriculum and Instruction*

National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)

Dr. Reilly, Supervisor of STEM, has been coordinating with NSBE and Dr. Hammond to arrange for a group of (15) students to participate in a NSBE event at Drexel University on October 7. This event will serve as the kickoff for promoting the formation of a NSBE chapter at Cheltenham High School.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 5: Communications and Engagement*

Counseling Needs

Ms. Christina Lewis, Supervisor of Elementary Special Education and Stephenie Russell, Supervisor of Secondary Special Education, met with Lakeside School counselors and Pupil Service staff to review caseloads for students receiving counseling services. A meeting is scheduled next week with district counseling staff.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway 2: Student Achievement*



ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT UPDATES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

Winter Coat Donation

Our Home and School Visitors/School Social Workers, Ms. Jessica Keene and Ms. Jennifer Mosher, along with Dr. Horsey, Director of Student Services, received 150 winter coats for distribution to students from the Auto Dealers Association of Greater Philadelphia on Wednesday, October 4th. The Auto Dealers Caring for Kids Foundation's "Driving Away the Cold Program," aims to provide winter coats to local elementary students in need. The organization plans to donate 50,000 coats during the month of October. We are grateful and excited about this new partnership!

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway: 4 Holistic Experiences*

DVCEE Middle and High School Student Leadership Institutes

We are excited to have representation at the 2017 Delaware Valley Consortium for Excellence and Equity's Middle and High School Student Leadership Institutes – "Overcome Your Fears and Let Your Dreams Soar" – scheduled for November 30th and December 1st at the University of Pennsylvania. A team of students from Cedarbrook Middle and Cheltenham High Schools will be in attendance.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway: 2 Student Achievement*

Second Annual College and Career Fair

Our second annual College and Career Fair will take place on Thursday, October 12, 2017, 9 am and 1 pm, at Cheltenham High School. Over 40 postsecondary institutions have confirmed their attendance. All 11th and 12th grade students will be invited to attend. This year, we are planning to arrange a small cohort of Cedarbrook Middle School (Central) students to attend, as well.

This work is aligned with our *Strategic Plan Pathway: 2 Student Achievement*

