

Assistant Superintendent Board Report

August 22, 2022



I. Great Start to the New School Year

School started on Wednesday, August 3rd. All schools were ready and students had a fabulous day. Ron and I visited every school and went into most classrooms. Teachers were prepared and excited to have students back.

II. Community Schools Grant Update

Socorro High School was awarded a \$50,000 planning grant for Community Schools by the Public Education Department. A committee met to discuss how the funds would be used. We posted a stipend position for the Task Force Chairperson internally on August 15th. The person hired will then assemble a committee of staff, community members, and at least one student to plan for implementation next year. Committee members will be paid on a time card for their work. First steps will be analyzing data from the Strategies for Success Student Survey from Spring 2022, and helping with the administration of the 100% Community initiative (part of Anna Age Eight), and the New Mexico Community Survey Socorro County (conducted by the Socorro County Prevention Coalition). The task force chair will also complete a climate and needs assessment at Socorro High School to include staff, students, and parents to address needs within the school site. The Task Chair will also create an asset map identifying the resources, supports, and programs currently meeting the needs of SHS students. The Chair will then work with the committee, identifying priority needs at the high school and write the implementation grant for next year accordingly.

III. Project Aware Updates

- a. They had their first Mental Health Collaborative meeting. This meeting was to get the community and organizations together to discuss mental health within the community and to begin to look at gaps within the resources and how to close the gap. Next meeting is scheduled for August 30th at 3:00 pm
- b. They met with SMH to work collaboratively with them to support the students of SCSD
- c. Samantha and Jackie have both been trained as CSW (Community Support Worker) and in Seeking Safety
- d. Since school started we have gotten 11 student referrals
- e. They have a total of 15 students working with our clinician
- f. They have 9 students working with our Navigator
- g. They ordered posters and flyers with QR code so the students can refer themselves. They will also be handing out the flyers to parents and putting up posters at the high school
- h. Since school started, they have dealt with students (mostly 9th graders) that have had anxiety and panic attacks. They work with these students for about 15 minutes and try to get them into class. This week has been calmer.

IV. Trainings

a. Surviving Bombing Incidents for Educators

EMRTC, in conjunction with FEMA, held this training on Tuesday, June 21st: this training provided school personnel with the skills necessary to perform critical life-saving actions in the immediate aftermath of a bombing incident. Participants learned the correct methods to apply

tourniquets, pressure dressings, and methods of hemorrhage control. Each participant received a personal trauma kit containing tourniquet, chest seal, pressure dressing, and other lifesaving equipment. We had 8 staff members attend. There will be a repeat 4-hour training scheduled for January 6, 2023, with a morning training for all high school staff and an afternoon training for all middle school. Both trainings will be held at the middle school. Elementary teachers will be voluntarily trained on Friday, September 9th (to be paid on timecard).

b. Active Shooter Training

POMS and Associates (James Vautier) trained all administrators and maintenance personnel on Thursday, July 21st on prevention and mitigation of active shooter events. He reviewed basic prevention measures such as keeping all exterior doors shut and locked, developing close relationships with students so we know when they need help, and having layers of security (fencing, locked doors, classroom doors locked). He also discussed mitigation strategies, such as “run, hide, fight,” multiple layers of communication, and reunification. He will be repeating this training on Wednesday, August 31st from 4:00 – 6:00 at SMS for all staff members (staff to be paid on timecard). He has scheduled “fortification” training with each site in September to review specific safety concerns and fixes for each school site.

C. LETRS Training

LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling) will continue this year and expand to 3rd grade teachers. LETRS is intensive professional learning that provides educators with a deep knowledge to be literacy and language experts in the science of reading. We began this 2-year training with 1st grade teachers a year and a half ago. We have since added Kindergarten and second grade. Teachers work through independent modules as well as group virtual trainings to work through sequential training in the teaching of reading. Our first cohort (1st grade teachers) will complete all training by December.

D. Other Ongoing Trainings:

- MC²—All elementary teachers will continue year-long math conceptual training
- Savvas—all elementary teachers will receive year-long support and training in the new ELA adoption
- Carnegie—middle school and high school teachers will continue to have training and support in the math series adopted 2 years ago.
- Online Required Training Modules—staff will complete individual modules on Vector in the areas of child abuse, blood-borne pathogens, sexual harassment, drug free workplaces, FERPA, HIPAA, and other state required and site required modules. All modules will be completed by August 31st
- Annette Brinkman—will work with the middle and high school this year in developing the standards based report cards, rubrics, and planning coherent instruction

V. COVID Update

In response to newly released guidance by the CDC, and a corresponding update to the Public Health Emergency Order, and NMPED’s updated Toolkit, the following went into effect August 16, 2022:

Continued Support:

- We will continue to provide masks and sanitizer to any employee or student who requests it
- Classrooms and schools will continue to be disinfected and cleaned daily
- We will test any employee or student who requests it
- We will continue to report all positive tests to the New Mexico Department of Health

Changes:

- Employees who are not up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations will not be required to test weekly. If an employee would like to be tested, nurses will continue to test upon request.
- Any student or employee who has been in close contact with a positive case will not be required to quarantine, regardless of vaccination status.
- Test-to-stay will not be required to stay in school.
- Anyone who tests positive must quarantine for 5 days. There is no COVID leave as of June 30th.
- Masks are not required, but any staff member or student who wishes to wear one may do so.