School Improvement Planning

The 2018-2019 school year will be the third year of our AdvancED school improvement cycle. Plans are underway to implement the District's continuous school improvement planning regarding teaching & learning.

The District has and will continue to develop strategies to capitalize on our strengths as well as to address improvement priorities. Since the plans inception, the District has planned, organized, and implemented strategies for improvement.

2017-2018 Board Goals and indicators of meeting the goal were:

A. Plan and implement strategies to address recommended AdvancED school improvement priorities

- ✓ A complete and comprehensive report was submitted to AdvancED addressing the recommended improvement priorities. AdvancED's overall response stated the district is well on its way to meeting all goals and objectives
- ✓ The district is in the process of transitioning to standards-based report cards and researching trimesters
- ✓ The district implemented the Zones of Regulation starting with elementary grades working up into higher grades
- ✓ A new evaluation tool addressing professional practice and student growth was developed and implemented for the second year
- ✓ Beginning FY '19, all evaluations will be completed electronically
- ✓ The district is researching and piloting a new reading series
- ✓ The District is researching adoption of a Tier 1 social emotional curriculum with universal screener/progress monitoring that addresses the Illinois Social Emotional Learning Standards.
- ✓ The district is researching and conducting inquiries in order to make a recommendation regarding district adoption of AIMS Plus and/or MAP, and/or STAR, and/or Fast Bridge for academic universal screening and progress monitoring.
- ✓ The district implements a train the trainer model in order to train pertinent school employees in "CPI (Crises Prevention Intervention) – Verbal De-escalation" skills.
- ✓ Nurse, special education and social worker staff was added to meet social/emotional needs of students
- ✓ Specific grade level strategies were examined to address core areas of reading; after data analysis with faculty, changed focus of goal from fluency to reading informational text
- ✓ Specific grade level strategies were examined to address core areas of math; after data analysis with faculty, decided to continue the goal of increasing mathematics computation skills
- ✓ Members of the PERA evaluation committee work with the teachers to familiarize certified staff with the current evaluation system and changes
- ✓ Distributed and collected surveys of certified staff regarding knowledge of the evaluation instrument
- ✓ Data Days are scheduled to analyze student achievement progress

- ✓ Developing documents to monitor district and individual school improvement planning
- ✓ The master schedule is designed to incorporate intervention times for grade levels
- ✓ Added and/or enhanced the following courses at SHS for the 2018/2019 school year: Choir offerings, Project Lead the Way (science credit); AP Honors Biology I; Physics I; Arts, Crafts & Cultures; Studio Fitness; and AP English Literature

B. All schools will encourage and initiate school-wide positive behavior programs

- ✓ Each day, Character Counts videos are shared with students
- ✓ Zones of Regulation has been implemented
- ✓ Schools encourage a Kindness Campaign
- ✓ K-5 Schools provide quarterly behavior incentives such as Straight A cook-out; Bringing Up Grades – BUG Roll; Perfect attendance lunch; Honor Rolls; creating a "Character Rock Garden";
- ✓ SMS implements an anti-bullying program each year
- ✓ SHS implemented Teens Activating the Language of Kindness program (TALK) program

C. Support professional development opportunities for all staff and board members

- ✓ The District professional development committee continues to offer in-district professional development
- ✓ All Board members, administrators and staff members are encouraged to attend workshops/conferences each year
- ✓ Sharing and dissemination of professional development experiences at staff meetings is encouraged
- ✓ Required online *Infinitec* training is available for all staff
- ✓ Over $32,000 grant funds were used to provide professional development in FY '18
- ✓ Earning an advanced or master's degree is highly encouraged.

D. Continue to monitor funding and finance options with a goal of a balanced budget

- ✓ The Board, administration and staff has become familiar with the Evidence Based Funding (EBF) model; and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and how they are tied together
- ✓ Monthly and yearly budgets and financial reports are reviewed by the administration and Board
- ✓ The administration monitors building budgets to stay within Board-approved balances for each line item
- ✓ District budgets, audits and levies are completed and adopted in a timely fashion.

- ✓ Staff and administration research and apply for additional funding sources and grants
- ✓ School fundraisers are planned for additional expenditures and other school-based projects
- ✓ Schools collaborate with PPA's, athletic and music boosters and the Education Foundation to support and enhance programs and services
- ✓ Applied for and received additional funds from ISBE to enhance the Pre-K program and technology needs
- ✓ Shared Services are utilized such as Agriculture classes, park district uses and agreements with the City of Sandwich (fuel bid and control device)

E. Provide factual information to all stakeholders regarding funding options to complete mandated life safety projects

- ✓ The district provided monthly reports during board meetings regarding the Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB) referendum
- ✓ The DSEB referendum committee provided information to the voters regarding the referendum
- ✓ The referendum to increase the DSEB by $700,000 was voter approved

F. Examine multiple options and mediums to disseminate school district information

- ✓ A district Twitter account was created and used to promote programs, services and informational items regarding school and student activities
- ✓ The district and schools maintain a website
- ✓ Individual schools use Twitter accounts
- ✓ Individual schools use Facebook; and the district is working toward developing an account
- ✓ Tyler is used to communicate grades and announcements with students, parents and staff
- ✓ Monthly newsletters are posted
- ✓ Email, texts and School Messenger automated calls are used to communicate with stakeholders
- ✓ Articles are submitted to the press on a daily/weekly basis