**Mid-Ohio ESC Governing Board Report**

**Lynn Meister**

**Director of Teaching and Learning**

**February 17, 2021**

**Special Project**

As part of the new teacher evaluation system, OTES 2.0, districts need to form specially-trained committees to determine if teachers’ assessments submitted as part of the evaluation process meet the new requirements for High-Quality Student Data Assessments. On February 9, I met virtually with attendees from our client districts to offer assistance in training and leading their committees as they begin the process of vetting district assessments. I will work with Dena Kirby and Rick Rawson, contracted Mid-Ohio consultants, to lead these groups through ODE’s training modules and help them begin the vetting process for one day, free of charge. Districts wanting additional days may contract with Mid-Ohio if consultants are available.

**Teaching and Learning Department**

1. The team continues to conduct Reading Tiered Fidelity Inventories for contracting districts, including Northmor and Lucas this month. The Teaching and Learning team members then assist the district in revising its literacy plan to match Ohio’s expectations for district/building literacy frameworks, emphasize how to provide evidence-based instruction and intervention in three tiers of work with students, track the integrity of implementation, and collect data on student growth. This process is happening in both Northmor and Lucas. In addition, we are assisting their administrators and teachers as they determine which resources to purchase for literacy and mathematics.
2. We continue to work with SST 7 at Crestline to fulfill the district’s improvement contract with ODE. To this point, the team has provided training in the Heggerty phonemic awareness program and helped teachers incorporate it into classroom instruction. The team is also providing training and resources to implement an evidence-based approach to teaching systematic phonics. Also, the team is incorporating training and coaching in elementary mathematics.
3. I am assisting Mansfield City to revise its Local Literacy Plan, based on results from the Reading Tiered Fidelity Inventory completed in all elementary buildings. After the LLP is finalized, I will work with the district to create or revise each elementary’s building-level literacy plan. These documents, with input from staff and administration, will guide literacy instruction to build evidence-based core instruction and effective intervention practices. The project will continue into next school year.
4. Madison is receiving continued professional development and coaching, primarily in elementary literacy and upper elementary/middle school mathematics. The district’s curriculum director works with the team to determine next steps based on teacher implementation and student data.

**Literacy Grants**

1. The Comprehensive Literacy State Development grant is moving forward rapidly.  Here are a few of the activities.
2. Kalin Wilburn is supporting the grant for professional development in remote learning, a critical aspect of support for teachers.  She is also creating a digital warehouse of extensive literacy resources, training materials, padlets, Goggle classrooms, and other items associated with the grant. This allows easy access for teachers and makes these materials available after the grant period is over.
3. The Mid-Ohio literacy coaches continue to assist the model sites to create effective Literacy Leadership Teams and create a strong foundation for each building’s literacy program; these teams meet monthly with Lisa Cook and Kelly Britton.
4. The coaches have trained teachers in both model sites to administer and analyze the Acadience assessment, which provides in-depth data on student performance in foundational reading skills.
5. Teachers will be administering the Acadience assessments in the next month and will use this data to improve core reading instruction and appropriate interventions for students struggling with reading.
6. Sherri Richter and I continue to provide support as needed for the grant project. Sherri assists with professional development; I provide oversight and assist Lisa Cook with ideas for direction and implementation of grant requirements. As appropriate, I am available to work with coordinators from the model sites.
7. The work of the Striving Readers No Cost Extension Grant, under the supervision on Dena Kirby, is moving forward with numerous projects as outlined in the Year 4 narrative and budget.
   1. I am working with Dena Kirby to determine ways to appropriately spend the funds originally set aside for tutoring, which will not happen due to COVID.
   2. Last week, ODE announced an opportunity for Striving Readers consortiums to receive additional monies to be spent on specific projects already approved by ODE. The application is due February 18, and I will update the board in March on the consortium’s application and, if approved, how the project will impact administrators, staff and students at Highland, Buckey Central and Plymouth-Shiloh (grades PreK and 6-12 only).

**Gifted**

1. The Tri-County Spelling Bee will be held virtually on Thursday, February 18. The gifted team, headed by Leah Barger, has worked hard to prepare for all the Bees this year.
2. Leanna Ferreira planned and facilitated four Academic Challenge events for grades 4 – 8 in January. All these events are held virtually, and other members of the gifted team assist Leanna with the project as needed. Academic Challenge continues in March and May of 2021 for grades 4 – 12.
3. March 19 – 25 is the week for the exciting Artapolooza event, with various arts-related events held each day. Jenny Pennell heads this time-intensive work and has planned each event with COVID restrictions in mind. The gifted team assists as needed for this extensive project to recognize students for their accomplishments in the arts and provide ways for all students to create their own artistic experiences.

***As always, thank you for your support of our endeavors!***