



Buffalo School District 12/10/2018

**Objective**: This Progress Monitoring Report will provide the host district with feedback on their initiatives implemented as a result of their previous two SSRs.

**Protocol:** In your review teams, you will provide feedback in the area you observed during the SSR.

- 1. Review the strategic priorities of the host district, and the actions taken as a result.
- 2. For each of the "Actions taken as a result of previous SSRs", consider with your team the questions below, and provide narrative information based on your visit today.

#### **Curriculum and Instruction** Strategic Priorities: VISIBLE LEARNING, CURRICULUM WORK Where did you see this CURRICULUM implemented? • Clear transition in place and everyone knows what needs to happen. Clear about expectations but struggle to explain why it's important in the here and now. Saw it in some classrooms • It is very evident that the work is being done and a shift is taking place. **VISIBLE LEARNING** • Secondary mostly has them in the google classroom; know where to find them. Students were able to identify what was being talked about. Good things happening; lots of posters and work being done toward visible learning being done. Where else would you CURRICULUM • Expected to see it in all, especially with the language of the standards and making it expect to see it, but you did not today? student-centered. VISIBLE LEARNING was expecting to see more of the criteria in classrooms. Some teachers had more so tasks for the day or objectives; very few had the learning intention and success criteria.

Was expecting to see the learning objectives and success criteria posted everywhere.

What else is possible for this district? What would you recommend?	<ul> <li>CURRICULUM</li> <li>Spend time looking at the 6 days you have and breaking standards down, so staff can teach multiple lessons on a standard.</li> <li>Suggest having teachers report back after they have worked on curriculum.</li> <li>Board giving staff 6 days is a huge step to work toward this.</li> <li>Clarity; as teachers know what is expected of them, it's making it easier for teachers to take the</li> </ul>
	steps to take to get there.

<ul> <li>Leadership and Vision</li> <li>Strategic Priority: Providing leadership, support, and resources for the 3 initiatives (Visible Learning, Curriculum Work, Mental Health Coordinator).</li> </ul>		
Where did you see this implemented?	<ul> <li>By taking the steps to hire the curriculum coach, mental health person; steps are being taken to support the vision.</li> <li>S-CAP process is supporting. Can look at previous SSRs and it's exciting to see that they have done the things they said they were going to do.</li> <li>Funds have been aligned to those three items.</li> </ul>	
Where else would you expect to see it, but you did not today?	•	
What else is possible for this district? What would you recommend?	•	

Learning Dispositions and Climate     Strategic Priority: MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE	
Where did you see this implemented?	• Seems like a really positive/role position for the mental health professional.

Where else would you expect to see it, but you did not today?	<ul> <li>Expected to see it more in the JH/HS area instead of starting at elementary, but understand why.</li> <li>We saw, in specific classrooms, "the world's greatest failures, and rise above your situation". But it wasn't really that prevalent.</li> <li>Difference in how teacher thinks is being paid for the mental health professional and actuality.</li> </ul>
What else is possible for this district? What would you recommend?	<ul> <li>Maybe the mental health professional could do more surveys to find out where more areas of need are to grow his position.</li> <li>Staff would like to see more communication with what the mental health professional is doing (as much as can be shared w/ confidentiality)</li> </ul>

# \*Summary comments - big statements to leave the district with:

- There is definitely teacher buy-in; teachers are willing to do more work to get the standards taught.
- Teachers are in the same mindset as admin
- Variety of teaching strategies being used
- Big snaps to the elementary art teacher who was doing STEM project
- Staff has a great deal of trust in administrators.
- Very impressed with the variety of classes being offered.
- Great focused on SEL with the new school psychologist. definitely giving time for it.
- All need to do a better job of utilizing all individuals to their fullest potential and teachers are a partner in hearing that.
- Would never ask a teacher to teach 30 mins of calculus once a week and see a lot of change; SEL is the same.
- Think it's great that the district hired the mental health professional.
- Elementary are VERY thankful that the mental health professional is here because they can spend less time finding the root of issues.
- Secondary teachers are pretty positive about the mental health position but want to see where it's going to go.
- You should feel proud of the mental health professional bc he's being utilized and it will impact the school.
- Think it's great that he's a male in the elementary.
- Exciting to realize we can get there through this process. It feels like we're starting where they were starting.

### STEAL

- learning intentions can be put right into Planbook.com; kids are able to access that
- some classes were just having fun; remembering that it's ok to have fun while you're doing your job
- teacher cards; innovative design cards; new way to think about projects, etc.
- Mental health teacher did a great job with kids taking risks (socially) and it went well.

• BBQ recipe

## CAUSE A WORRY

## **IMPRESSED WITH**

- Creativity was fabulous; kids were engaged and they were having fun doing it
- Teacher buy-in
- Very low turnover rate. Leadership causes that (hats off)
- Focus groups; teachers felt like they had everything they could want or ask for (PD and otherwise) very supported by admin
- walked into class with a sub and teaching/activity was still happening
- Lower elementary saw the same thing with subs
- saw a student teacher getting a great foundation
- writing of the curriculum; we all need it
- elementary hallways were immaculate and beautiful; every student was polite and kind
- schoolwide culture is positive and welcoming
- kids were kind to each other
- observed a PE class with no wasted time; task oriented and fun but knew right what to do.
- lucky enough to sit in on all focus groups, and all of them were so proud teachers are of student learning and success.
- Watched the transition in K classroom and it was seamless.
- Really liked the flexible seating and lighting throughout the elementary.
- Lots of self learning, projects, etc.
- Puts a lot back on the kids to make them responsible for their learning.
- Teachers really feel valued as professionals here; use formative data to drive instruction.
- impressed by chromebooks.
- Positive and happy the teachers are here. Feel support from the admin and each other.
- Evident throughout the whole school that there is a lot of Merino pride.