

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

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Superintendent's Report

August, 2016

UPDATES:

The week of July 18th, nine GISU staff members attended the grant funded, National SWIFT Professional Learning Institute in Arlington, Virginia. Attendees were treated to a range of workshops and presentations related to developing comprehensive Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). There were several Key Note presentations as well. Presenters included principals, teachers and researchers from across the country, as well as representatives from the US Agency of Education, and our very own Director of Curriculum, Megan Grube. It was a very informative conference for us all and provided time for professional conversations across the SU.

ESSA Public Input Retreat:

The Vermont Agency of Education is hosting a two day retreat, August 10 & 11, at Jay Peak Resort, to facilitate public input for the state-wide ESSA Implementation Plan. Megan Grube, Beth Hemingway, Eric Arnzen and Alisha Adams will be attending from the GISU.

There has been a lot of activity across the SU with building repairs and remodeling projects, hiring for multiple staff positions, tutoring and summer services, etc. Additionally, all administrators will be meeting for 3 days in August, the 8th, 9th and the 22nd, to complete Inservice plans, refine our 2016 – 2017 School Development Plan (i.e. Big Picture GISU) and revisit all Federal Grant Program investments as well.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING:

So many wonderful things were set in motion last year between the investments in training around Lucy Caulkins units of study and the lesson study work in mathematics to the prioritization of standards and proficiency work done through our SWIFT partnership. The leadership team is working on short and long term professional learning that will continue to refine the practices that were established last year and support the systems and structures that we know are working for students.

In addition, there will be a focus on using data to lead our discussions around effective pedagogy and development of priorities at the SU and school level. We will use the data we collect to inform decisions at all levels of the SU and ensure that we understand the root causes of our successes and areas of improvement. I will regularly report what we are seeing from our data sources and how we are responding to the emerging trends.

FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE:

The business office has a very busy August ahead. We have the STAT report due August, 15th and the Special Education Expenditure Reports due August 1st. We have begun the audit preparation, information gathering and general ledgers which will go to the auditors August 16th, and then they can start their fieldwork on August 29th. We have lots of analyses and entries to close the FY 16 books as well. Our software system, ADS is currently being updated for new salaries, benefits and new hires. We have an Isle La Motte food service bid to send out in order to have a food service management company on board for the beginning of the school year. Final FY 16 grant reports are due to the Agency of Education on August 31st. We have food service financial statements to prepare and send to the Agency of Education due August 15th. We have spreadsheets to update to begin the budget process, again.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Administrative Retreat Dates: August 8, 9 & 22
New Teacher / Staff Inservice ½ day: August 23rd
SU Wide Inservice Day: August 29
Local Inservice Day: August 30
First Day of School: August 31
Labor Day (no school): September 5