

Staffing

Jill and Scott are currently working with the building principals to identify qualified applicants for all current and anticipated openings and working with the building administrators to schedule interviews with these candidates. We are also attending a number of job fairs and working with local colleges and universities to attract new teachers to our amazing Region. We are continuing Lisa's process of asking all finalists for positions to teach a class prior to making a final decision on hiring.

Professional Learning

PDEC. The Professional Development and Evaluation Committee met on 29 March to discuss the new Evaluation Rubric (*The Continuum of Professional Practice*; CPP) and how it will be used to define the effective (and expected) planning, assessment, and instruction for all of our schools. We talked about the other areas in which we will be using the language from the rubric, in informal conversations about teaching and learning, in data team meetings, even in school-based discussions of programs and student success. We also discussed adopting the Portrait of the Graduate as a PK-12 idea and crosswalking that document with the Habits of Mind (both of which are in the new CPP). Finally, we came to a consensus that we would all like to have next year's professional learning mapped out before teachers leave for the summer.

Local Opportunities. Our next professional learning half day is scheduled for May 12 and May 13, with early release for the PK-8 schools on the 12th and a delayed opening for the High School on the 13th. These days are designated as local professional learning days and are planned by each school to meet their individual needs. Jill and Scott are available to work with each building's Leadership Team (and the High School's professional Learning Committee) to flesh out the learning targets and corresponding activities for those days.

Regional Plans. Over the course of the last month, teachers and administrators have been engaged in training with consultants from Fastbridge to learn how to interpret the screening data and monitor progress using that tool. The feedback on these sessions has been overwhelmingly positive, and additional training has been scheduled for Progress Monitoring and Advanced Data-Based Decision Making.

Planning for 2021-2022. Our goal is to have a year-long regional professional learning plan in place prior to the end of the school year. This will allow teachers to engage in some pre-reading on the topics of importance and to consider how their goals next year can be related to the professional learning that will be in place. Additionally, we have school-based professional learning days scheduled for next year and will be working with the building principals and their Leadership Teams to identify specific learning needs and the concomitant learning activities. We expect that all of these decisions will be data-driven and focus on increased student learning.

The Counseling Department

Standards. The publication of the Standards for School Counselors has spurred our counseling team into action. They are working to unpack the new standards (i.e., translate the standards into action items) and to audit their current curricula to ensure that the standards are being met across grade levels. They will be spending some time this summer working together on this task.

Student Success Plans (SSP). The counselors have also looked at several programs that would incorporate college and career readiness activities and provide a way to electronically submit college application materials directly to our 12th graders' colleges. We were looking for a way to ensure that our [Student Success Plans](#) (required in Grades 6-12) can be transferred from the Middle Schools to the High School. We currently use Naviance at the High School, but the counselors have looked at [Xello](#) and determined that it seemed more user-friendly and included all of the information needed to allow the SSPs to move with the student from grades 6-12 and allow the same college planning and form submission as Naviance.

School Visits

Jill and Scott have had the opportunity to visit all of the schools in the Region twice and have been incredibly impressed with the students' work, their willingness to share that work, and the upbeat and positive environment in each of the schools. Our visits are wholly non-evaluative and allow us to be able to answer any questions that may come through our office about our schools. We would be remiss if we didn't say that we thoroughly enjoyed our visits to every school and look forward to continuing to visit throughout the rest of this school year.

Grants

We are actively at work on applications for the ESSER II grants. There has been an extension of the deadline for the ESSER II Grant until April 19. Jill and Scott are working with the school principals to identify the needs in their individual buildings and to complete the rather lengthy

requirements for this particular grant. The State has identified 4 priority areas for the use of ESSER II funds:

- Academic Supports, Learning Loss, Learning Acceleration and Recovery;
- Family and Community Connections;
- School Safety and Social-Emotional Well-being of the “Whole Student” and of our School Staff;
- Remote Learning, Staff Development, and the Digital Divide.

Summer Learning

Jill and Scott are in the process of coordinating plans for summer learning and look forward to sharing those plans with you later this year. Our initial plans, shared with the building principals, will involve having both enrichment and academic work. We will be using some of the Federal grant monies to offset the cost of these summer programs.

Career/Work Experience Program

Dr. Mary O’Neill submitted her [written report](#), highlighting her work on the Healthcare Career Awareness Certificate Program, and her work with the faculty on Advisory and Capstone.

Respectfully submitted.

Scott A. Fellows

Scott A. Fellows, Ed.D.

Jill Pace

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