

With the 2016-17 year state report card release, our district knows we have work to do, and our staff is up for the challenge. We know the importance of early literacy and are working to ensure that all of our students have the skills necessary to meet the complex tasks demanded of them in education today. Our administrative team is working with the building and teacher-based teams for focused areas of improvement. We are committed to improvement in the area of achievement, and we have set the bar high so that this year, we continue to increase our performance on the state tests.

The tests that our students take in the spring are just a snapshot of what is happening in our buildings with our students and teachers. Included here are some things that we are working on to highlight the efforts of our students, staff and administrative team. We are proud of the education that we provide in the Madison Local Schools and are committed to helping all our students *expect, believe and achieve*.

### **Madison Board of Education**

As a district we continue to work toward the goals in our strategic plan. This year we are really moving forward in our work with our Curriculum and Instruction. We are also working to continue to improve communications within the community through regular newsletters and community meetings. In addition, the safety and well-being of the students we educate are important us, and we support the buildings in their work around Positive Behavior Intervention Support.

### **Madison Pre-Kindergarten**

Our district is proud of the services we provide to our youngest students. We have transitioned our classrooms to a model that promotes developmental and age appropriate curriculum. We have started a parent resource center this year and are going to provide multiple opportunities for parents to learn how to support their child's development and growth at school. Our students also are introduced to our Positive Behavior Support Program as learn how to be Super Streaks! The skills learned in our Pre-K program build the foundation for a life-long love of learning.

### **North Elementary**

Literacy is at the heart of all learning for the students of North Elementary this year. North Elementary is one of 16 schools in Ohio to participate in the Early Literacy grant. The purpose of the grant is to support the foundational skills that are important to becoming life-long readers. To support the work of the grant the school is participating in a school Read-a-thon. Students have a goal to reach individually, and classrooms are also setting goals. Our emphasis for Title-I this year is reading and we have two Title-I teachers to support this effort.

The PBIS this year is working toward more positive support for students and staff in the form of gift certificates, shirts, and activities. This is making a positive difference in the behavior and academics. There are 18 community businesses involved with helping our school with the PBIS.

## **South Elementary**

At South Elementary, the focus is also on literacy improvement and while, they are not a part of the grant this year, staff is attending training to implement next year. There is also an additional Title I reading teacher on staff which allows the staff to provide much more service at the primary level (including 2+ hours daily in kindergarten) and to help students meet the demands of the curriculum and therefore the Third Grade Reading Guarantee without pulling service from other grades.

Grades 2 & 3 are working collaboratively on scheduling Intervention & Enrichment ("no new instruction") time for all students to address reading and writing strengths as well as challenges.

Both elementary buildings will be participating this year in gifted testing in grades two and five which will help us more accurately identify our gifted students, some of whom are not immediately evident in the whole-class setting.

## **Madison Middle School**

Last year the middle school introduced the Explore classes in all three grades. Explore classes offer the students a deeper dive into content standards and materials for their four core classes and PE/Health. The teachers spend more time on specific standards and develop interactive, hands on projects that students find fun and exciting.

Project Based Learning is an extension of Explore classes and is in its first year of implementation after a pilot last year in all three grades. Students in each grade level work on a collaborative project with all their grade level teachers as the guides to the projects. The teachers and students collaboratively decide on a project and then spend Explore class time to discuss, plan and complete the project. The focus of Project Based Learning or PBL is to expose students to standards and skills they might not access through the regular curriculum.

This year the middle school has a new technology class for 8th grade students. The 8th grade students in the semester long course learn how to write code, code and fly a drone and program little robots. Students love the hands on approach and the ability to work with and program toys while sneaking in some math and communication skills.

Our middle school math teachers are working to improve the math instruction at the middle school and are using technology as an integral part of their teaching so all students make growth in math class and on the state assessments.

## **Madison High School**

At our high school, we continue to focus on PBIS and will highlight this through hosting our 4th Annual Project Unify Basketball game for the Special Needs population in February. This event unites the entire student body for this event.

In terms of academics, during our Tuesday morning late arrival, our teams are examining testing data and marking areas for growth. With recent passage of the levy, we've added additional

science course offerings: AP Chemistry; Ecology; and additional sections of physics and chemistry classes.

In addition we continue to develop our Academic Labs to provide support for students who are struggling in a class. They can come to get help in a subject area, use a chromebook for an online class, and/or need an area to work on an assignment.

We welcome your input, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (440) 428-9315.