

TO: Board Members
Administrative Staff
Cc: Mike Bock

FROM: Dr. James J. Schoenlein

RE: TESTING TIME APPROACHING
LEVY UPDATE
PRINCIPALS NEXT AYP SUMMIT

DATE: February 26, 2010

Testing Time Approaching

There seems to be a growing sense of urgency across the district as test time approaches, a good thing. I have pulled three quotes at random from building bulletins. Then the fourth one that I stole from a Kettering Health Network publication. Thanks to everyone for all the hard work !!!!!

FHS has identified sophomores who are at-risk of having trouble on the OGT. Students were identified via Pro-Ohio and OAA data, and teacher recommendations. Sophomores will be pulled from study hall first, and then from elective classes. Dan has instructed adults in the school to say to sophomores:

"(1) stats say a student's best shot at passing is the first time around, and (2) we care enough about you to do everything we can to set you up to be successful on these tests."

"We have 5 full weeks until spring break - time to crank up the intensity and expectations. Inspiration is the name of the game and I continue to be impressed by the wide variety of techniques and creativity being utilized in this building. Our sole focus remains the same: understanding that our increasingly "needy" and challenging population will not be successful if left on their own, and that they (and our community) are relying on our compassion and expertise to positively impact their lives."

"Continue the important work of moving our students forward in their growth. Continue to share your enthusiasm of learning with your students. This is the time of the year we are at our best! Continue to encourage a growth mindset in your classroom."

"We're all getting better and better because we push each other and because we share."

Levy Update

The first meeting of the big "Steering Committee" was last Wednesday evening, February 24, at 7:00 p.m., in the KFHS Recital Hall. About 65 people showed up. It was a good upbeat and positive gathering. The tri-chairs, Jim Trent, Charley Schuerholz, and Fred Manchur said a few inspirational words. Committee heads spent a few minutes getting their people organized. The next meeting is Wednesday, March 24, at 7:00, in the FHS new library.

I am almost finished with my levy visits, only Beavertown and Prass to go. Please continue to emphasize to your people that: (1) We must all be upbeat and positive; (2) We need money; (3) Every day is levy day. There should be Voter Registration forms available in all building offices. We will get the Voter Registration "carry-home" rolling very soon. Please let me know when there are people congregating in your sphere and we will get someone there to represent the levy (whenever two or more are gathered . . .)

We will have a press release out soon featuring our levy campaign Tri-Chairmen: Jim Trent, President of the KCS Board of Education; Fred Manchur, President of the Kettering Health Network; and Charley Schuerholz, owner of Schuerholz Printing. It was a real coup to get these three guys together.

Principals' Next AYP Summit

The next Principals' AYP Summit will be Thursday, March 4, at 9:30 a.m., in the Board Room. We will be taking a look at the "Principal Teacher Achievement & Growth Analysis" charts. We will discuss the following questions:

- What to do about teachers in Quad #1.
- Some of you mentioned "moving" teachers. What are some considerations one should keep in mind when "moving" teachers? Are there social/political restrictions?
- How can a Building Principal utilize Quad #4 teachers? Any pitfalls or cautions?

CC: Board Members

- Any disparities you found between teachers you thought were good/poor and what the data showed?

FR: Is the IPDP evaluation option helpful, or could it be helpful, in addressing needs or opportunities that come to light in reviewing the Four-Quad data?

RE: TESTING TIME APPROACHING

- If Ohio is awarded a RttT grant, we, along with all the other locals that tagged along with the ODE, will have to come to an agreement with our teacher associations on tying student growth data to teacher evaluations.

DATE: Does anyone see a way to do this that might satisfy KCS, KEA, ODE, OEA, USDE????

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