

Interim Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Board Report

October 2014

1. September 17: Attended the Superintendents subcommittee on special education. At the full meeting, presented my analysis of the Beginning Years Program to the Superintendents with roles and responsibilities of districts, BOCES, St Lawrence County, and NY State. Demonstrated that SLL BOCES has greatly reduced our programs and showed that the remaining programs cannot be run at anything other than a loss. Recommended that districts stay current with those losses using annual BOCES refunds and that we continue to encourage United Helpers to expand their offerings.
2. September 22: Led the BOCES APPR Steering Committee meeting to review implementation and discuss any issues or suggestions for improvement. Both teacher and administrator representatives feel that the process is working well.
3. September 23: Tom and I met with administrators and support staff from SLL BOCES and NERIC to review the transition to School Tool for both CTE and Special Education. There are some significant differences in the programs that present challenges for uniform implementation particularly since most of our special education classrooms are in component districts with their own student management software.
4. September 24: Met with Jennifer French, Patti Fisher, and Steve Fenton to discuss the transfer of distance learning supervision from Jen to Patti. Discussed RUS grant implementation, an orderly transfer of responsibilities, and current challenges with the service. Met with Ron Burke and Deb Champagne to provide detailed information about roles and responsibilities in various CoSers. I updated Ron about changes that we have made since July 1 within the school improvement division. Led a conference call with Susan Todd, Joe Kardash, and Dr. Daggett to work through a potential scheduling problem for Dr. Daggett's presentation on March 19. Discussion resulted in a \$2500 reduction in cost.
5. September 26: Met with Nancy Avery to discuss succession planning for her replacement and the potential role for Ron Burke during budget development. Met with Ron Burke to continue our discussions from 9/24. Met with Tom Burns, Rafael Olazagasti, Nicole Ashley, and Ron Burke to prepare for negotiations with the teachers' bargaining unit.
6. September 29: Planned and executed a meeting for Rafael Olazagasti, Patti Fisher, and me with the NYSUT labor relations specialists in Potsdam to discuss the implementation of the Virtual AP Grant and the potential for course offerings next year.
7. October 1: Attended the superintendents meeting, updated them on our meeting with the NYSUT, and made recommendations regarding negotiations relative to on-line and blended courses. Completed the transfer of responsibilities to Ron Burke.
8. October 2: Back to retirement!!! 😊