

School District of Bayfield

Board Report

Sandra J. Raspotnik, Director of Pupil Services/Special Education
December 9, 2009

We have received a letter from Tony Evers, State Superintendent of Schools, indicating that Bayfield has completed the required Self Assessment. The corrections have all been made and changes in procedures were put in place so that we will maintain the corrections. This was a huge endeavor. As we went through the process, the Special Education staff worked very hard. Bayfield is very fortunate to have such a dedicated staff. Lori Heckman did a wonderful job in gathering, sorting, and processing huge amounts of paperwork in this process.

The special education department is making some changes in its programming. With the Board approval, we are in the process of hiring additional staff. With an additional LD teacher, the LD programming for grades 1-5 will have two teachers, team teaching to provide the services to the students. There will be a "semi" self-contained program for those grades as well. The purpose is to have the students, who are demonstrating more difficult behaviors to have an intense program in social skills and more uninterrupted time for those with academic needs. The meaning of the term "semi" is because some of the students have already demonstrated that they are able to handle certain classes or situation, for instance PE or math, the students will continue to receive regular education services in those areas.

In an effort to have an effective hiring process, an application screening tool has been developed. After having used it one time, we are making some slight changes, but I believe that it was useful in the process. An example of the process will be submitted with the approval for hiring a new Instructional Assistant.

We are continuing to meet on a monthly basis with the Red Cliff Head Start to collaborate on services and students. The specialists who are involved with the programming with RCHS meet with the teachers. We have been

alternating between the two sites and it has been very productive. Lorie Erickson and I also attended a staff meeting at the Head Start for the purpose of explaining and answering questions about the referral process. Lorie did an excellent job of presenting the information to the staff.

The newly formed School To Work committee has met a couple of times. We are working on the protocol for requesting a School to Work program and its evaluation. Changing the wording of the course description for the handbook has also been worked on. We will continue to work on this program so that the process and procedures will be clearly defined.

The work on the PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) programming has been moving along. Missy Eid has been providing information on the program to the high school and middle school staff. We have formed a district-wide steering committee and we will be meeting twice a month to continue with this work.