

Memo

To: Ms. Ruscio
Mrs. Llewellyn

From: Mr. Van Etten
Date: 3 December 2015
Regarding 2015-2016 Quarter 1 Data

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on data from the first quarter. In reviewing the information for the high school, I will comment on the 3 areas that the data divides in.

Attendance

The renewed emphasis on attendance has led to more focused discussions on missed attendance causes. Beginning shortly after the start of the first quarter, the daily reporting of students absent 3 or more consecutive days as well as students absent 90% or more have been a significant part of weekly student support team meetings as well as a daily emails to the team. Increased communication between school staff has helped increase parent and school communication regarding absences and support for students academic work. In nearly all cases, students making the 90% absent lists have already been discussed by the team before making the list. Students absent 5 or more days would reach the 90% attendance list. Common reasons include illness and injury 45%, family vacation 5%.

Communication from families has increased with the mailing of letters. While this has raised some initial concern, in most cases it has reinforced conversations that have already occurred between home and school.

STAR Testing

STAR Math scores show a stronger Math skill set in the current ninth grade at this point compared to the previous year. STAR Reading levels show a consistency at levels 3 &4 when comparing last year's grade 9 data to this year's grade 9 data. An increase in students at level 1 and corresponding decrease at level 2 compared to last year's group. An increase in students requiring AIS support follows this. Lancy Collins continues to be coordinating AIS monitoring services for English for ninth graders. She has been regularly meeting with teachers to track progress and discuss interventions. Conversations Mrs. Collins and I have had each five weeks have resulted in follow up and in some cases the addition of an AIS period or use of other time during the school day to provide academic support. More students have been scheduled for time in AIS than in previous years. We are looking for additional ways to support students in AIS.

First Quarter Grades

Course averages and performance bands are provided for courses. Areas of noted change in average include:

Technology - Results in technology courses are similar to results from last years. This is year 2 for our Project Lead the Way courses. We continue to monitor student performance as we implement courses with increased rigor.

Calculus - More students are taking both Calculus I and II this year. There is also a change in assignment for the class, both may impact results.