

Our Path to First Choice No.11
2018/19

Everyone,

With the first frost behind us, and leaves changing, the 2018/19 school year continues. Stay warm, and take in all that autumn offers. Enjoy the rest of your week.

Our Path Topic

Another Action Team that is focusing on Transparency is working to limit our audit findings as a result of the audits WASD is required.

The Waynesboro Area School District is audited in many areas by many entities. The District is audited by the Auditor General's Office of Pennsylvania, the internal auditors at Smith Elliott Kearns & Company, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Some of these auditors audit one area or more.

The Auditor General's Office audits us about every 3-4 years starting in April. The audit financial stability, governance (school board activity), contract management and monitoring, bus driver qualifications, pupil transportation data collection and reporting, teacher and administrator certification, school safety, administrator contract buyouts, membership data collection and reporting, and more.

The District auditors Smith Elliot Kearns & Company audits us annually starting about June. This audit includes financial management, accounting controls, personnel sample survey of salary compared to Board-approved action, review of journal entries, comparison to source documentation of reported revenues from the state, local and federal programs, financial stability of the district as it relates to fiscal trends and fund balance, review of the district's funds (general, cafeteria, medical, student activity, capital reserve, and trustee), legal issues pertaining to the fiscal health of the organization, and comparisons of all the above with other PA districts and the LIU peer review.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education audits our school nutrition program (Healthy Hungry-Free Kids Act of 2010, wellness policy, menu planning, meal counting and claiming, and professional standards), Nutrition Resource Management (ensure that federal and state procurement requirements are met for all purchasing, internal control for food service purchasing, point of sale reports, and so much more financial information), Summer Meal Audit, Transportation, and Food Services. These do not count the special education audit that occurs every three years.

Our Action Team that is monitoring and working to eliminate all audit findings has a long way to go. However, when it does occur, it will be another form of building trust with the stakeholders (internal and external). If these large entities find no issues with what WASD does in these areas, that is quite an accomplishment in building trust.

Next week, we will look at another Action Team's progress in achieving our strategic objectives.

Board Information and Policy Updates

- Attached are: **210.1—Possession/Administration of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto-Injectors, 819.1—School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers, 810.3—School Vehicle Drivers, 810--Transportation and 818—Contracted Services Personnel.**
- The Board's next meeting is November 13 at 7 PM in the High School Auditorium.

***Important to Know**

November 21st is an early dismissal for students. It will also be an early dismissal for staff. All staff may leave after students are gone and your duties are complete.

Piece of the Puzzle

Heather Shatzer has worked tirelessly with a variety of faculty and staff members to get beginning of the year assessments and groups up and running. She coordinates assessment schedules and materials, progress monitoring, and more to get students and teachers what they need to be successful. Heather has a wealth of ideas for managing student behaviors and academics and is always willing to help problem solve any situation. She communicates with parents and families, fielding a variety of concerns and filtering those concerns through the process. Most importantly, she does all of this with a smile on her face and makes every person feel like she is worried only about them when we all know she has 8000 other things to worry about too! She is truly a lifter upper at Fairview Avenue Elementary School. This is why Heather is this week's Piece of the Puzzle. Congratulations, Heather!

***Review for You (Important to Know)**

What is WASD's Attendance Action Team doing to achieve our strategic objective for a *First Choice for Students* and *First Choice for Staff*?

Events

- October 25th—Trick or Treat
- November 12th—No school for students. Professional Development for staff.

***Review Answer (Important to Know)**

WASD's Attendance Action Team is working to improve the attendance of students and staff. One thing—the team has worked to improve the process for notifying, documenting and holding students and parents more accountable for attending school. The new process will possibly be deployed by the point of the mid-year.

This action team has looked at the problem of acquiring substitutes for teachers. Already this year, we have had numerous days classrooms were short substitutes. With that in mind, an incentive program is being developed for teachers with perfect attendance during the first quarter and subsequent quarters after that. The team will also be exploring incentives for support staff attendance. Nevertheless, the teacher incentive will go into place first.

Final Thoughts

- *80 percent of success is showing up.*—Woody Allen
- *When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating.*—#SchoolEveryDay
- *All you need to know was in the class you missed.*—Anonymous
- *I want to hire employees who arrive late.*—Said no boss ever.
- *If Facebook was school, I swear I'd have perfect attendance.*—Picture Quotes.com
- *There's no time like the present. There's no substitute for being present.*—dahki.com
- *It's so important to understand your good attendance ups your chances of graduating.*—Tyra Banks.

Have a great rest of the week!

Today

