

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

September 20, 2017



I would like to thank parents and staff for their assistance with our unexpected early dismissal last Friday. In particular, I would like to individually recognize: Rebecca Fenlon, Tina Greer, Gabi Roberson, and Kendall Wallace (parents at Marine who helped staff with the process). On the staff side, I would like to thank Baldomero Álvarez, Celine Dissel, Juan Pablo Escaray, Caralyn Harmon, Ana López, Patrick Moynihan, Raul Muñoz, Macartney Owen, and Sabrina Poirier for volunteering to stay as long as needed for the students.

ENROLLMENT OVERVIEW

SLLIS Program	9.18.17 Enrollment	Last Year on 9/19/2016: Cohort Enrollment Comparison (last year's kindergarten put next to this year's 1st grade enrollment)		Attrition	
French-Kindergarten	29				
French-1	18	21		-3	
French-2	28	31		-3	
French-3	16	25		-9	French Net Loss: - 51
French-4	27	32		-5	
French-5	25	32		-7	
French-6	9	33		-24	
French-7	9	TIS had 32 total 7th and 8th graders			
French Totals:	170				
Spanish-Kindergarten	62				
Spanish-1	64	71		-7	
Spanish-2	64	71		-7	
Spanish-3	49	58		-9	Spanish Net Loss: -75
Spanish-4	42	49		-7	
Spanish-5	48	61		-13	
Spanish-6	22	54		-32	
Spanish-7	9	TIS had 32 total 7th and 8th graders			
Spanish-8	9				
Spanish Totals:	369				
Chinese-Kindergarten	26				
Chinese-1	28	27		-1	
Chinese-2	26	28		-2	
Chinese-3	31	36		-5	Chinese Net Loss: -32
Chinese-4	33	40		-7	
Chinese-5	22	32		-10	
Chinese-6	7	14		-7	
Chinese Totals:	173				
SLLIS District Totals:	712				772

- As you will recall, our initial enrollment target during the spring budget season was 770. We reduced that number down to 750 for the Board-approved budget in May, and then to 720 once school was in session. Reasons for leaving SLLIS range from physical moves away from St. Louis to returning to a neighborhood school to being accepted into a magnet program to being dissatisfied with the program at SLLIS.
- It is worth noting that other local charter schools did not meet their projected enrollment targets. One charter school missed their projected enrollment target by 200 students and had to release 15 staff members. Even the most successful charter school in St. Louis did not meet their target. Doug Thaman at MCPSA is trying to help establish collective recruitment efforts where charter schools work together.

ACADEMIC OUTCOMES

- I have shared with you some initial MAP results and data analysis on both student growth and achievement (reports in Board packet). The growth report focuses on whether or not students gained, maintained or lost MAP points between the MAP testing session in April 2016 and April 2017. It also looks at the percentage of students that moved to Below Basic (the lowest proficiency level on the MAP test). The achievement report focuses on the percentages of students scoring at Below Basic, Basic, Proficient, and Advanced levels from 2015 to 2017. For ease of quick interpretation, I have highlighted certain data points in red, yellow, and green.
- One very general conclusion can be made: while certainly several grades/subjects made demonstrable growth (e.g., Spanish 5th grade in both Communication Arts and Math and Middle School in Communication Arts and Math), we have far too many students across SLLIS achieving at the Below Basic levels in Communication Arts, Math and Science.
- I have also included a basic comparison of English Language Arts instruction from last year to this year, examining minutes by grade level and program, i-Ready (personalized learning software platform) and English teacher. The Instructional Leadership Team is currently working on trying to close instructional gaps for students in English. We recognize that the situation for teaching English to students is less than ideal but we are faced with on-going budget challenges that prevent us from hiring additional instructional staff.

OTHER

- Work is in process on several components of the Strategic Plan. A more formal progress report will be provided at the November or December Board meeting.
- The all-SLLIS parent involvement group that will serve as our PTO are hard at work trying to establish systems and structures for regular parent engagement. Their next meeting is on October 4, 2017 at 6 pm in the Papin cafeteria.
- Diversity Awareness Partnership (DAP) prepared a quantitative report (included in Board packet) for SLLIS based on the staff survey results from this past August. I met with the trainers about the report and they reported many positive strengths of SLLIS in regards to climate of diversity. We discussed the need for more intentional diversity and inclusion efforts as well as the need to identify ways to train staff about children of different races, ethnicities, and socio-economic backgrounds. On our Professional Development Day on February 16, DAP will return to do a 90-minute lunch and learn session and have a panel discussion with staff.