Superintendent’s Report  
January 27, 2022

Typically, with the onset of a new calendar year, we ramp up plans and activities related to preparing for the following school year. The significant piece of this effort is wrapped up in the development of the budget. Therein reflects deep thought, data analysis, and soliciting input on positions, programs, and resources all in an effort to serve student need. Plans and activities can also involve updates to curriculum and program expansion. I’m using the space of this report to update you on three significant efforts in these realms.

Last spring, the Lynn Public Schools was the recipient of a $208,000 grant to support culturally responsive literacy in the district under the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Growing Literacy Across Massachusetts (GLEAM) initiative. GLEAM grants will support districts in implementing deep and lasting improvements in programming in ELA/literacy through a multi-tiered system of support. The effort to improve literacy through equitable practices is supported through a partnership with both DESE and our consultants from The Hill for Literacy. In tandem with these consultancies, our charge is to adopt a new core curriculum for our Tier 1 ELA instruction at the elementary level.

Presently, a Curriculum Council Adoption Committee is being formed who will support the process of evaluating and selecting a new core curriculum. Key stakeholders from each elementary school will be represented on the team, including grade level teachers, as well as ESL Specialists and Special Education teachers. We are excited about this opportunity! As the effort progresses, I will update you via report, with plans for a formal presentation to the Curriculum Subcommittee when we narrow the selection.

A similar effort is happening with elementary mathematics although not in formal partnership with DESE. During the upcoming months, the math curriculum team will establish a leadership team of representatives from curriculum, English Learner Education, Special Education and elementary teachers from across the district. This team will analyze elementary math curriculum materials through a standards-based and culturally responsive teaching lens using a researched-based rubric. As part of the selection process, we intend to pilot some of the materials. As we have done historically, we will follow the established adoption procedures approved by the School Committee. As is the case for the ELA adoption, we keep you abreast of our progress.
Finally, on January 18, 2022, we submitted a grant application in partnership with North Shore Community College. Our vision is to provide a full-scale, high-impact immersive early college experience for Lynn high school students, with the expected outcomes for students to graduate from high school having completed a minimum of 34 credits within four years. For now, we see this as an exciting chance to provide a robust, immersive, early college experience for LPS students and deepen our partnership with North Shore Community College. Much more to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Tutwiler, PhD
Superintendent