

CLAYSBURG KIMMEL'S NOTES FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Darren J. McLaurin, Superintendent

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Welcome to the first edition of Claysburg Kimmel's Notes from the Superintendent. I will publish these periodically throughout the school year to keep the community updated on some of the exciting things happening in the school district. Please check our website often for more notes and highlights.



COMMUNICATION

One of my first goals as superintendent was to increase communication within the school and throughout the entire community. Some of the exciting things we have accomplished during my first six weeks in the district include:

- Creating a teacher's committee at both the elementary and high school to meet monthly with the principals to resolve outstanding issues.
- Establishing a superintendent's committee which allows representatives of these teacher's committees to meet with me once a month to further resolve unanswered problems.
- I have met with the parent's group to talk about their thoughts and concerns.
- I have scheduled monthly meetings with the Claysburg Education Foundation to enlist their support both financially and through other means.
- Developing monthly Elementary and High School Newsletters available on the district's web site.

CURRICULUM

An effective **curriculum** provides teachers, students, administrators, and community stakeholders with a measurable plan and structure for delivering a quality education. A curriculum is something that is always changing to meet the needs of our students. We have started to review our curriculum to ensure our students are receiving the best and most up-to-date education available. Some of the curriculum work happening at CKSD includes:

- Curriculum mapping with the hopes of posting all core subject curriculum maps to our website by June 30th.
- Looking at ways to increase student instructional time in math classes to further improve test scores.
- Bringing in outside educators to review our progress in the areas of Curriculum and Comprehensive Planning.
- Reviewing surveys taken of recent graduates to determine area for improvement in school's education structure.
- Improving tutoring available to students before and after at both elementary and high school.
- Brainstorming with other successful surrounding districts to determine what they have done to create success stories.
- Visiting other highly successful schools outside Central PA to learn from them.



STEM

At Claysburg Kimmel we share the Department of Education's commitment to supporting and improving STEM education. Ensuring that all students have access to high-quality learning opportunities in STEM subjects is a priority. We have been working alongside the Claysburg Education Foundation to ensure our students our leaders in the STEM movement. Some of the STEM related activities happening in the district include:

- A team from CKSD attended a Carnegie Science STEM seminar with IU08 to work on our future STEM plan.
- Working with the parents and Foundation to establish a summer STEM program for the district.
- Redefining the high school after school STEM program to increase participation.
- Partnering with the Blair County Chamber of Commerce to provide summer STEM opportunities for students in Grades 9-12.



SAFETY

At Claysburg Kimmel we believe that it is our duty to maintain a safe and secure environment conducive to student learning. We are in the process of reviewing all school safety plans and working with state and local EMS to ensure our students are safe.

We are working with IU08 to create an Emergency Operations Plan for the district. Highlights of the program include:

- learn the concepts and practices needed to create our school's Basic Plan;
- access a national, best practice model school EOP template and other useful planning aids;
- walk through the process of drafting or revising your school's Basic Plan as a district team;
- experience hands-on focused incorporation of location specific considerations to create a contextually relevant and practical plan.



Contact Us

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