

Richland Schools

Office of the Superintendent

Memorandum

Date: 6/23/23
To: School Board
From: Shelley Redinger
Subject: Friday Packet

Enclosed please find the following documents:

- Board Dates to Remember
- Dual Language Update
- DRAFT District Objectives



TO: Board of Directors
RE: Event Dates
DATE: 6/23/23

June:

- 6/27...Board Meeting-Board Room-6:30
 - 2023-2024 Budget and Extension Hearings-6:00

July:

- 7/11...Board Meeting-Board Room-Change of time-
 - Bond Workshop-4:00-5:30
 - Regular Meeting-5:30

August:

- August Board Leadership-Need to Schedule/What will work for Summer?
- 8/8...Board Meeting-Board Room-6:30
- 8/22...Board Meeting-Board Room-6:30



Date: June 23, 2023

To: School Board Members and Dr. Redinger

From: Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent, and Heather Tolon, ELL Instructional Specialist

Subject: Dual-Language Update for 2023-24 - Bilingual Classrooms at Tapteal Elementary

Tapteal Elementary Kindergarten & First Grade Bilingual Classrooms 2023-2024:

- In the 2023-2024 school year, Tapteal Elementary will offer Spanish bilingual classrooms in one kindergarten and one first-grade classroom.
 - Caroline Wittman will teach the bilingual kindergarten classroom
 - Yeselle Maldonado will teach the first-grade bilingual classroom
- Both classrooms will receive additional bilingual paraeducator support for the school year.
- Placements for both classrooms have been made for the 2023-2024 school year
 - The kindergarten classroom placement consists of:
 - Entering Kinders (Monolingual): 12
 - Entering Kinders (Emergent Bilingual): 8
 - The 1st grade classroom placement consists of:
 - Entering 1st graders (Monolingual): 7
 - Entering 1st graders (Emergent Bilingual): 14
 - Spots were chosen by randomized lottery (computerized) that was conducted on June 1, 2023. Families had to be signed up by May 31, 2023. This was advertised through the RSD website.
 - All spots were filled by Tapteal students (We gave priority to home neighborhood boundary students first).
 - 3 Kindergarten students and 3 first grade students from Tapteal did not receive a spot
 - 4 Kindergarten and 2 first grade students who reside out of Tapteal boundaries did not receive a spot
 - Families who applied were notified in the mail if they received a spot in the classroom or not.

2023-2024 Dual Language Task Force/ Bilingual Leadership Team:

Brian Moore, *Assistant Superintendent*

Derek O’Konek, *Executive Director, Elementary Education*

Sean Langdon, *Principal, Tapteal Elementary*

Rachael Clayton, *Assistant Principal, Tapteal Elementary*

Heather Tolon, *ELL Instructional Specialist (Elementary)*

Lisa Schutt, *Instructional Specialist (Tapteal)*

Caroline Wittman, *Kindergarten Teacher (Tapteal)*

Yeselle Maldonado, *1st Grade Teacher (Tapteal)*

Instructional Updates:

Professional Development. Heather Tolon has led Caroline and Yeselle in Instructional Professional Development in the following areas:

- WIDA Standards Framework (Language Standards)
- Language Objectives & Dimensions of Academic Language
- Best practices in instruction for the inclusion of emergent bilingual students
- Cornerstones of Instruction for language acquisition
- Designated English Language Development (ELD) practices
- Stages of language acquisition for second language learners
- Analyzing data from WIDA Testing to inform instruction
- Strategies for instruction to support language acquisition

Classroom Instruction. Any areas of instruction taught in Spanish will be connected at the end of the unit to English vocabulary and applied in English (called “Bridging”) to ensure that students can apply content knowledge taught in Spanish to English. Any areas taught in English will have an opportunity for Spanish vocabulary connections.

- **Foundational Reading Skills:** Taught exclusively in English (Spanish may be used to support content understanding of native Spanish speakers) to support the district’s Science of Literacy initiative.
 - As the program progresses, this will be revisited with more professional development and team input.
- **Math:** Discussions in progress on language of instruction. If math is taught in Spanish, we also have the opportunity to test math in Spanish via iReady, supporting District inclusionary efforts.
- **Social Emotional Learning (SEL):** SEL will be taught in Spanish. The Spanish version is included in the adoption.
- **Science and Social Studies:** Discussions in progress.

Looking Ahead: The Dual-Language Task Force/ Bilingual Classroom Leadership team will continue to meet in the 2023-2024 school year to discuss future growth plans for the dual-language program. Our initial plan is to grow bilingual classroom options to grades 2-5 at Tapteal in the years ahead and provide bilingual options at other elementary schools and grades 6-12 in 2024-25.



DRAFT 23/24 District Goals

Well-Being - Implement a K-12 behavior and discipline improvement plan using the PBIS model as a common district framework.

- SWIS Data System, □ SEL Curriculum Implementation, □ PBIS Implementation & Training

Academic Success - Show continuous annual improvement in K-3 reading scores as measured by iReady reading assessments.

- Implement Pilot of ELA Curriculum, □ Structured Literacy Principal Training, □ LETRS Training for Teachers, □ PLC Process Improvement at Schools (Weekly Data Cycles)

Community Engagement - Maintain consistent, clear communications with internal and external stakeholders using various tools and channels throughout the school year.

- Parent Square implementation, □ Superintendent interaction opportunities with parents, staff, students & stakeholders, □ Gather parent feedback and community input through Annual RSD Parent/ Community End-of-year survey, □ Develop Community-facing Data Dashboard

Accountability (Long-Term Facilities Planning) - Complete development plans and document process for comprehensive, third high school construction.

- Gather continuous feedback from stakeholders, the community, and students throughout the process, □ Schematic design completed, □ Construction documents completed & Start permitting process, □ Communicate and update community, stakeholders, and parents.

Safety - Upgrade RSD facilities and improve district safety plans.

- Levy Projects for improved security entry points at nine school sites, □ Infrastructure & Systems Improvements including lighting, camera surveillance, perimeter control, and badge access points, □ Improve Site Safety Plans, □ Implement a System of quarterly district-wide Tabletop drills.

Special Education - Increase the percentage of students with IEPs served in general education for 80% of their day or more. (64% in 2023).

- Ongoing professional development regarding inclusive strategies and practices, □ Implementing Goalbook tool to increase fidelity and consistency between staff/schools, □ Continuing to partner with staff and community for continuous progress toward action steps/ sped task force goals.