



NEWSLETTER

-Jason G. Moser



- Joy Beers



District Finances

This month brought a sound action which the School Board approved at the July voting meeting. Our Business Office has created a very sound and lucrative short-term investment plan. We will be investing approximately 2.8 million dollars into a variety of accounts and certificates of deposit. This plan will allow us to maintain a healthy amount of cash on hand while also locking in some rates on funds over an extended period of time. In the long run, this will continue to enhance our revenue stream outside of reliance on local taxes, and it reflects sound management of the community's investment in our District.

Town Halls

In an effort to hear from the entire school community and to be able to share my own philosophies, we will be scheduling town hall style meetings in all three buildings during the months of September and October. Please be on the lookout for dates and times!

Academics

During the month of July, District Administration **proposed a two-tiered diploma program for future graduating students.** At the July School Board voting meeting, the School Board approved a first reading of the **revised policy.** The idea behind this potential change is to allow the High School the ability to be more flexible in order to meet student needs. By having an option for students to graduate with 22 credits, the school will have the ability to help students attain internships or even employment opportunities with a supportive system to help students prepare and make connections with local employers.

Simultaneously, an administrative focus this school year in the High School will be to begin the foundational work necessary in order to become an AP Capstone Diploma High School. This designation offers students the opportunity to earn a nationally recognized accomplishment that can be significant when applying to highly competitive colleges and universities.

While this ongoing work at the High School will create a wide pallet of outcomes to our students, we are also working on systems across grades K-12 which will help to support the diligent work of our teachers by instilling a comprehensive assessment system so that we know exactly what instructional supports all of our students need, at any given time, in order to reach their fullest potential.

Personnel

This month saw the hiring of seven new teachers to the District. Five of these individuals will be starting with us at the Elementary Center, and the other two will be joining our team at the Middle School. Our new hires and their assignments are as follows:

- **Laura Filchner** - 3rd Grade Teacher
- **Conner Grabfelder** - 3rd Grade Teacher
- **Justine Helman** - 3rd Grade Teacher
- **Jennifer Grima** - Academic Interventionist
- **Jesi Cericola** - Academic Interventionist
- **Heather Mullen** - Middle School Family and Consumer Science Teacher
- **Hannah Daly** - Middle School Counselor

We were also fortunate to hire **Tricia Foster** as our Elementary Principal of Academic Improvement and Achievement. Tricia started her work with us on July 1st. She has over two decades of elementary teaching experience and brings a clear passion for ensuring that all students are exposed to grade level reading and math skills and to help support our teachers in the critical work of deliberately closing achievement gaps for all of our students.

We truly look forward to their additions to our team!

Superintendent's Advisory Committee (SAC)

Beginning this Fall, I would like to establish a SAC in order to continue to hear more of the community's ideas about continuing to improve the Lehigh Area School District for our students and families. If you are interested in serving, please fill out this form:

SAC Interest