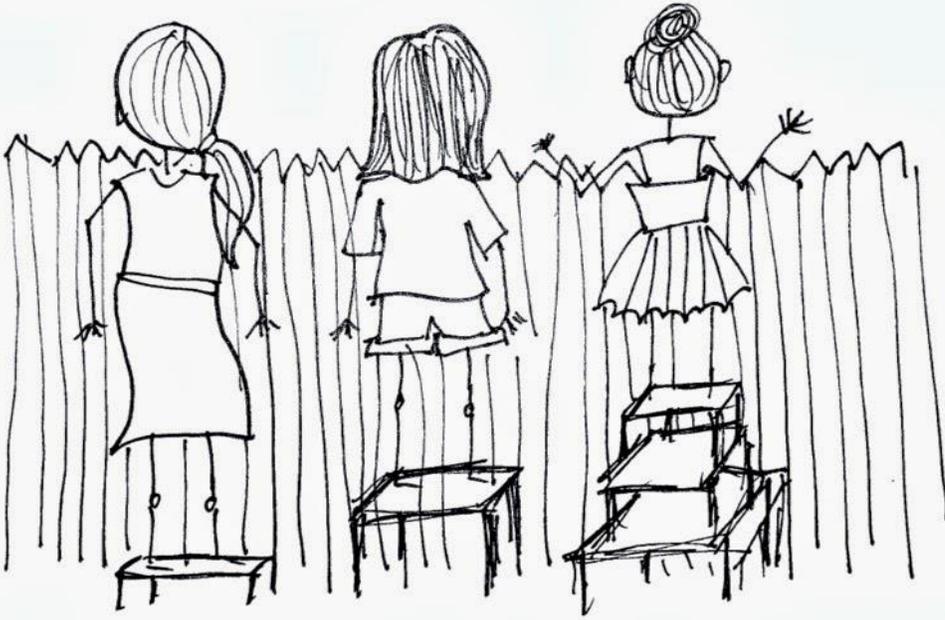


# EQUITY!



## Equity and Curriculum

October -  
November  
2016

IN THIS ISSUE

## Equity and Curriculum

Welcome to the first Equity Department Newsletter. Each month we plan to highlight the happenings within our department which includes: **AVID** (Advancement Via Individual Determination) **Diversity and Inclusion**, **ELL** (English Language Learners Program), **MTSS** (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support), and **PBIS** (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports). It is also our goal to communicate resources and supports for our colleagues district-wide. We hope you enjoy our first edition and hope you find it to be informative.

## Diversity and Inclusion

Diversity and Inclusion training took place for paraeducators, and building secretaries on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Part II of this training will take place on November 10. A full day training will take place on October 7 for All department secretaries, central office secretaries, the transportation

department and technology department. It is our goal to have every district employee undergo these sessions by the end of the 2016-17 school year. In addition, building staff will have the opportunity to participate in campus based diversity and inclusion activities to continue our journey of ensuring inclusion of all. Finally, the first Equity Steering Committee meeting will be held October 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:15 in the board office. This committee will continue the work of implementing the district strategic plan which includes many Equity initiatives.



## Bilingual Education

Multilingualism has been shown to have many social, psychological and lifestyle advantages.



## AVID

- Teaches skills and behaviors for academic success
- Provides intensive support with tutorials and strong student/teacher relationships
- Creates a positive peer group for students

## Bilingual / ESL Education

Many teachers from the Bilingual program, curriculum coordinators and special education teachers recently had the opportunity to meet with Pearson Education. The meeting focused on reviewing curriculum in the areas of Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Biliteracy. The Bilingual program is looking into curriculum that addresses the needs of all learners. One priority is to find curriculum that is available in English and Spanish. We want our students to develop academic vocabulary in English and Spanish while developing their content area skills.

### Learning Spotlight

Students in Ms. Thiel's class are working hard to sharpen their skills as writers and taking risks in their writing. They have been researching past presidents and have been gathering interesting facts about them. They have used multiple sources to find information for their projects. Once their project is completed they will be presenting their information to their peers.



November 16, 2016  
Blackhawk Elementary  
School  
5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

#### PROGRAM CONTACT

If you would like additional information about the Bilingual / ESL program please contact:

IGNACIO GARZA  
815-801-0115

Great job Ms. Thiel's students!



## Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

### Bilingual Family Health Fair

One of the roles of the MTSS coordinator is to coordinate district efforts to provide evidence-based academic interventions that are matched to student needs.

After analyzing various academic data, *Fountas & Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI)* kits were selected as one of our evidence based academic interventions to be implemented in elementary and middle schools.

In addition to *LLI* kits, we have a limited number of licenses for Skills Navigator, which is a computer based program from NWEA that is integrated with MAP. It can be utilized to pinpoint discrete skill gaps

and offers resources for remediation, enrichment, or core instructional

support. We are in the final stages of planning for implementation, and intend to have it fully implemented by the end of November. If you are interested in learning more about Skills Navigator, check out the [informational brochure](#).

After attending a partnership forum in September, we are currently researching *Imagine Learning* as well, which is a software company that also provides literacy interventions and core instructional support. This programming provides first language support in 15 languages other than English and is also

available in a Spanish version with first language support in English. It is a viable option for core instructional support within our EL classrooms across the district, as scaffolding for language acquisition is considered to be a Tier 1 support. While we have not arrived at a determination yet, we will keep staff updated as we continue to move forward with decisions regarding academic interventions and supports. If you are interested in learning more about *Imagine Learning*, please visit their website: [First Language Support with Imagine Learning](#)

If you are looking for *resources* and *support* for **classroom management**, check out the following:

[Classroom Systems and 8 Classroom Practices](#): If you would like further information, please contact one of the following staff members: Monica Pleshkewych, Deb Bondele, or Daniel Helsingier

[Leading and Managing a Differentiated Classroom: Archived Webinar](#)

[25 Classroom Management Tips & Tricks from Edutopia](#)

[PBIS and Restorative Practices Webinars](#)

[Administrator Academies for Restorative Practices](#)

#### PROGRAM CONTACT

If you have any questions regarding MTSS, please contact Jessica Larson, MTSS Coordinator, at

(815) 801-0127 or  
[jessica.larson@fsd145.org](mailto:jessica.larson@fsd145.org)

# AVID



October means turning leaves, playoff baseball and AVID college field trips. Since AVID is a college readiness system designed to get our students ready for the college experience, we intentionally schedule fall and spring field trips to college campuses in the tristate area of Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa. Many of our students might not ever see a college campus if not for our field trips. We know that experiencing a college campus first hand is vital for helping our students acquire and maintain the belief that they belong on a college campus. Many of our AVID seniors make their decisions to apply to colleges based on experiences from our field trips and many end up selecting their specific college based on having visited there during an AVID field trip.

Our goal with college field trips is to expose our students to as many different campuses as possible over the course of their time as AVID students in FSD145. We intentionally plan trips to colleges and universities in all three states in our region. We plan trips to small liberal arts colleges (Augustana College), medium sized state universities (University of Wisconsin at Platteville) and very large state universities (University of Iowa). We also plan trips to

## [Sidebar Title]

[Sidebars are great for calling out important points from your text or adding additional info for quick reference, such as a schedule.

They are typically placed on the left, right, top or bottom of the page. But you can easily drag them to any position you prefer.

When you're ready to add your content, just click here and start typing.]

colleges in rural areas (Monmouth College) and urban areas (DePaul University). Ultimately, you never know when or where an AVID student will find that spark on a campus that lets them know that they found the right place but we push to make sure all of our AVID students have the opportunity for it to happen.

This fall we sent our Carl Sandburg 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade AVID classes to Rockford University in Rockford, IL. We sent our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade AVID classes from Freeport Middle School to Western Illinois University in Macomb, IL. We sent

our Freeport High School freshman class to Western Illinois University, also. Both groups that went to Western Illinois University were fortunate enough to meet with a panel of former Freeport High School AVID students that are now enrolled at WIU. Our Freeport High School Sophomores and Juniors took a trip to the University of Iowa in Iowa City. And finally, the seniors will be taking a trip to the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in early November.

We will soon begin planning for our spring visits to college campuses in order to make sure that all of our AVID students find that perfect college campus for them.

## Family Resource Coordinators