

Hello again and greetings from USD 467!

First, a shout out to the Wichita County Junior High Scholar's Bowl teams. They competed at Tribune last Monday and both the 8th and 7th Grade teams came away with 1st Place! Congratulations and best of luck throughout the season!

This week I will discuss KESA goal number two, Responsive Culture-Leadership. The goal statement is: Develop a strategic plan based on BOE goals: Academic Success, Effective Communication, and Civic Engagement.

The work targeted is to develop a comprehensive 5-year strategic plan; increase effective communication to stakeholders, using the means and methods to match the stakeholder's needs and/or interests; and, merge the KESA goals with the current Board of Education goals by aligning the wording for a seamless integration and understanding of the desired outcomes.

The steps to attain the goal are:

Develop a timeline by the Board of Education and the District Leadership Team;
Create stakeholder groups to develop the strategic plan with 6-7 stakeholders per goal;

Share the strategic plan ideas from the stakeholder groups with the District Leadership Team and building staff;

Request and gain Board of Education approval of the plan;

Communicate the approved strategic plan with all stakeholders;

Request, review and evaluate feedback from stakeholders;

Implement the plan and document measures for each goal using data pertaining to graduation rates, attendance records, ASQ, retention rates, etc.;

Review the effectiveness of the plan; and,

Make changes as necessary to the strategic plan.

As the District Leadership Team begins the work on the Strategic Plan there will be several different kinds of resources needed. It will take time to plan and meet to discuss what to include in the plan, gather and review the data and make change recommendations for more success in the plan.

One of the most important resources are stakeholder volunteers to be a part of the groups. A stakeholder is anyone in the district: parents; patrons, who are not a parent but has an interest in being a part of the process; students; staff; anyone willing to volunteer to be a part of the process of school improvement. If you are one of the people willing to volunteer to be a stakeholder representative, please contact one of the building principals or me. Thanks!!

Once the plan is approved by the Board and implemented, the next challenge is to share the plan with the stakeholders. What are the ways to get the information out to all the district? Is it through the Leoti Standard? FaceBook? Twitter? Instagram? The district website? It will probably take all of these to reach most of the people, but what about the rest? Again, we need input from the community as what is the best way to inform the patrons of the district? If you have ideas or suggestions, again, please contact one of the buildings.

Thank you for taking the time to read this; I won't focus on sports every time, and I hope to share the good things that are happening at USD 467! If you have specific questions or want more information about what's happening in the buildings or district, don't hesitate to contact Lori Maxwell, WCES Principal, at 375-2314, Delbert Schmidt, WCJSHS Principal, at 375-2213, or me at 375-4677. Thanks!

Educationally,

Keith Higgins, Superintendent