

Late-start Fridays build cohesiveness

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

Late-start Fridays are built into the 2013-14 Holyoke school calendar essentially every week. Classes begin at 9 a.m. on Fridays, while staff members start their day at 7:30 a.m.

HHS Principal Susan Ortner and Elementary School Principal Kyle Stumpf reported on the first-semester Friday staff meetings at the Dec. 11 meeting of the Re-1J Board of Education.

Both emphasized the value of that time allowed weekly for staff communication.

Ortner said her staff goes fairly solid for about an hour and 20 minutes each Friday morning.

The first Friday of the month at Holyoke JR/SR High is dedicated to routine items such as celebrations, reports, expectations, Consortium Team Time debrief, professional development, walkthrough feedback, preparation for upcoming events, other projects and calendar update.

Unified improvement plan goals, data and technology were cited by Ortner as the topics for the rest of the month. She acknowledged that technology reports haven't been as consistent this year, but staff have benefited greatly from other timely discussions and collaborative approaches.

To read the full article, call us about an e-Subscription. 970-854-2811

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