Randy Shelley
Superintendent
Tyler Newton
Business Administrator
Ned Taylor
Transportation Director/Purchasing
Andrea Peterson
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Jennifer Batty
Secretary/School Food Service Director
Jamie Webb
Special Ed Director

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Liz Torgerson
Lyman, Utah

October 21, 2021

Dear Stakeholders,

Here is the next installment of highlights in Wayne School District.

One of the things I enjoy most about living and working here in Wayne County is the great people I get to work and associate with daily. October is National Principals Month, and as such, our principals have been on my mind all month. The principals in our schools are hardworking, caring, dedicated individuals who put students and staff first in all they do. They love our students, schools and community, which is reflected in their efforts. If you get a chance, take a minute to thank a principal for their efforts.

In an effort to further the work involving Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, that I briefly described in September, our administrative team met on Tuesday this week to begin the work of developing a strategic plan for the district. This plan will guide the work our team does over the next several years. There were several things we did during the day. First, we looked several data points to determine areas of strength and areas for improvement in the district. Next, we reviewed the district vision and mission statements to clarify how our work will focus on the vision that was established a few years ago. The next step was to identify what our core values for Wayne School District are. These core values will be used as decision drivers and help us stay focused on the things that matter when making decisions in the district. When finalized, these values will be shared widely throughout the community. Finally, to end the day we started to develop goals and strategies to support the district vison and mission.

This project will take several months to complete and will need to include all stakeholders. Our next steps include meeting with focus groups representing different stakeholders to gather feedback and ideas. On November 9th, the WCSD Board of Education will meet in a work meeting for this purpose. On the evening of November 9th at 6:00pm, we will meet with a parent/community focus group. This meeting will be at the high school. All parents are invited to attend. On the morning of November 10th, we will invite a group of school employees to meet with the same purpose of gathering feedback and suggestions. There will be much more information to come as we move forward in this process.

In other areas of interest, Loa and Hanksville Elementary Schools are placing a focus on family and community engagement. These schools are working to involve families and the community in literacy, volunteering, and student support activities. Some of the recent and/or upcoming activities include: Donut and Dash Literacy Day at LES, Halloween Carnival at HES, a field trip to the local corn maze and pumpkin patch, and STEM learning opportunities from various visiting experts. Our schools thrive when our community stays involved.

Here is the last thought for this installment. Last Spring it was suggested that the board of education include a high school senior as a student member on the board. At the end of the year, the student selected will receive a scholarship from the board of education. Students were informed of this opportunity and made aware of the application process. There were several applicants. Shaleen Nelson was selected to represent students across the district and attended her first board meeting as a board member in October. I am excited to have her on the board and look forward to hearing from the students' perspective as we make decisions that affect them.

Until next time,

Randy