

RYE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
School Board Principal's Report
September 2018

Enrollment as of September 1, 2018

Kindergarten: 38
First Grade: 51
Second Grade: 39
Third Grade: 44
Fourth Grade: 43
Fifth Grade: 38
TOTAL: 253

HIGHLIGHTED FOCUS FOR SEPTEMBER: OPENING DAYS PD

RSD Goal: *To improve the capacity of educators to personalize learning and challenge all students.*

Rye School District had 4 full days of teacher professional development before school began. Teachers were required to attend the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and the 27th of August. Attached is a copy of my agenda for the four days. By contract teachers have one floating day for classroom preparation and that is in addition to these four days. We provided Monday (20th & 24th) and Friday as potential floating days. Highlights of our four days included:

Fountas & Pinnell Training: Teachers and other guests in kindergarten through second grade attended a full day of training in the new Fountas & Pinnell Guided Reading program. We were pleased to have Jane Jones return to provide the training. Excellent feedback from the teachers and they felt like Ms. Jones presented useful information.

Lucy Calkins Units of Study in Reading: Teachers and guests in grades 3-5 attended a full day of training in Reader's Workshop and specifically the Units of Study in reading. Patty Wright from the Teacher's College provided training. She was an incredible presenter and the teacher's evaluations reflected their appreciation for all the information she provided.

As a participant in both sessions I was heartened to see how rigorous the programs can be and how our students will be stretched throughout the year. Both presenters shared that it isn't about teaching a specific book, but more about teaching strategies students will use and discuss that will make them better readers across all content areas.

Browne Center for Innovative Learning: Jeff & Jo from the Browne Center came to Rye Elementary to present a workshop on collaboration and empathy. This was a 4.5 hour program that stretched our group to better communicate and collaborate in new and innovative ways. A lot of fun!

Active Shooter Training: Rye Junior High (RJH) joined Rye Elementary (RES) for a session presented by the Rye Police Department. This training was a refresher course as they did a similar workshop two years prior.

RES vs. RJH: After the Active Shooter Training Rye Jr. High took on Rye Elementary in a series of battles to determine which school was the fastest in our Minute to Win It Contest. I am most pleased to report that Rye Elementary was victorious and Rye Jr. High has agreed to supply us with sweets/desserts later this year.

CPR. Training: Starting this year all paraprofessionals are now CPR certified. A workshop was held in the afternoon on their first full day back with a Red Cross trainer. With an increase in student needs we felt it was an important step for all paraprofessionals to have this training.

Other discussions and sessions involved the SAU Back to School Welcome, Plan for Effective Teaching rollout, Blizzard Bag Teamwork, JICK policy & the new Staff Handbook.