

MAEMSP NE Meeting 11/5/19 Notes
Sherman Inn Wolf Point, MT

- People in attendance
 - Mark Goyette- Glendive
 - Caroline Covert - Glendive
 - Angie Nelson- Savage
 - Rachel Erickson- Glasgow
 - Megan Murrell- Circle

Angie- Things are going well in Savage. New superintendent has been focusing on safety. Some new changes have had a little push back. Overall things are going well. New fob doors for outside buildings and common master keys for each building level.

Megan- Great 1st quarter. Doing some building movement. Circle has 5 buildings and they are looking at consolidating down to 4 buildings as the music building is no longer safe. There has been some community push back on it as some of the primary students would possibly have to use the same bathrooms as middle school students.

Rachel- 1st quarter went off well. Started a new school information system (Family Link). Some push back from staff since it is new and how it has impacted the necessity to post grades more regularly.

Caroline- gearing up for parent/teacher conferences. Just got through Red Ribbon Week and halloween. They started doing a monthly assembly school wide to help building community within the school. The kids had a great time and hopefully staff will start to see value. Kids were great the day after Halloween. Seeing a bunch of Tier 1- behaviors. Need to go back and do more “teach to’s” of expectations regularly. They are seeing behaviors from kids lining up on the playground.

Mark- ups: MBI and MTSS up and running, been a huge positive, trying to shift mindsets to this new way of doing things have been difficult, many staff members have been taking more Tier 1 behaviors on which has given Mark more time to get into classrooms to support kids and teachers, big SEL push in Glendive district as a whole, Jeff Veley has been multiple times to work with kids, staff, admin. Failed bond by 86 votes for elementary, really looking to spin it positively for the community. There was another pipe leak under the gym floor and it warped the gym floor again. This is the 4th girls basketball season in 6 years that has now been displaced. Trying to share information the right way has been a struggle. Glendive hasn’t passed a bond since the 80’s so there’s no money to be proactive. Instead of being really negative about it, staff is still moving forward. They had a really good first quarter educationally.

Agenda Items:

- We discussed school bonds and how we have tried to educate different communities on the needs of the district. Whether it is a class C school or a class A school. Getting community involvement/education in place is vital.
- SEL- Golden Rule Ambassadors program
 - “Bullying” is such a hot topic word and is misused

- We have intentionally brought in people to help us make the change from within and use the term “social aggression”
- Each month is a different big topic, activities, lessons, etc. to teach and have your kids go out and spread the program
- <https://www.jeffveley.com/golden-rule-ambassadors-lesson-library/>
- Have to feel what that’s like so role play is really important
- Victim mentality is so prevalent and they want others to fix it for them
- Our kids do not have the social skills needed to work through their problems with their peers, so we have to intentionally teach
- If we want to change academic culture, we must first change behavior culture
- Squabbles is a new game GPS is piloting to continue to teach those social skills and empower kids
- How can you find time to do extra things, especially in a 4 day week?
 - Before or after school
 - First 20 minutes of the day with a morning meeting
- Counselors are pushing into classrooms, but how effective is that?
- The whole point of pushing SEL is to get kids regulated and ready to learn. The amount of time you put into SEL is going to be seen in the amount of focused academic time
- Adults are not regulated themselves, so how do we help them regulate first so they can handle dysregulated kids
- Adults are burning out because they don’t have the skills to handle what’s coming at them and we don’t go home and stop worrying
- How do we make a safe place within our schools for our kids and staff to be able to share the hard things and teach them to empathize with others
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- What are we doing intentionally to support our teachers?
 - Really focused on the new teachers- what’s working and what’s not
 - Lots of little things like staff birthdays, Christmas party, etc.
 - PTO does staff awards once a month with a gift certificate and cake
 - PTO cooked breakfast for staff the morning after Halloween
 - It’s about the small things
 - PTO allows staff to write grants for up to \$200 a month to finance things in their classrooms
 - Jeans
 - Random you’ve been mugged that travels around
 - National I Care About You Day- little printed cards to give out to another person in the school
 - Written cards to staff members
 - Bin of candy- laffy taffy, starburst, life saver
 - Burst of creativity, life saver, funny thing that happened

- Scheduled time to go and hang out outside of school- certain days, POETS
- How do we shift the focus from what is wrong to what is right- shift those burned out people to focus on the good things
- “Am I just listening or am I fixing?” Most of the time they just need someone to listen

Agenda for next meeting:

- MBI/RTI combination to MTSS. How is this transition going in your district?
 - Incentives for kids or staff members
 - Curriculum review cycle and/or shifts in your district
 - Community and family involvement ideas
 - Attendance issues (What is your process to address?)
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- For the good of the order (questions, suggestions)
 - Next meeting January 14th 11 am Wolf Point
 - Meeting adjourned 12:30 pm