

2012 EDITION: STATE OF THE DISTRICT REPORT

Tonight's 'State of the District' report outlines fourteen priorities ahead for winter, spring and fall 2012. Some of the priorities are date-specific, such as the July 1st deadline for statewide launch of 'Dignity for All Students Act' which is intended to bolster prevention and prohibition of children harassing or stigmatizing other children on campus.

Ask any builder and you'll hear a recurring theme: Any successful construction project requires firm footings, generally referred to as a 'solid foundation'. Peru CSD has a 'solid foundation' of return on investment throughout the past decade. That investment has been placed in our students, faculty members, administrators, operations staff and across our campus in the form of renovated, modernized program spaces, updated district policy and in the form of increased efficiency & delivery.

Tonight's 'State of the District' report capsulizes the status of various key 'footings' for Peru CSD engagement and pursuit of increased achievement and success as measured by state accountability testing and revamped state policy regarding teacher and Principal evaluations. Also capsulized are key facts regarding fiscal accountability and the state's fiscal accountability report card.

Finally, that report re-states on page 5 the Peru CSD 'core values', as a reminder of what the Board approved, in regard to how we go about advancing the mission and promoting increased student success.

JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2012

Winter on campus is a 'core' period of instructional time. These are important months at each grade span for English language arts, preparation for the annual start of winter/spring state accountability testing and continued focus on student active engagement and accomplishment. There will be substantial energy and engagement by the Board and school community stakeholders on budget development conversations and on recruitment and interviews of prospective finalist candidates for successor Superintendent of Schools. The Board's timetable calls for a new Superintendent to begin service no later than July 1, 2012.

January through March 2012 will also feature collaborative dialogue at the district office. I'll be inviting and engaging various faculty association leaders and administrative council leaders on the topics of state-mandated major change regarding annual performance reviews, piloting of practical methods to gather evidence associated with state-mandated criteria for annual teacher evaluation scores, scoping out the details of 'Dignity for All Students' act mandates for school districts, attending to budget development matters, and analyzing the Governor's to-be-announced 2012 state aid proposal for Peru CSD and the state's other rural school communities which are highly dependent upon state aid for revenue, and which have had three very tough years of stagnant or reduced state operating aid. Much good work is ahead for the winter months, and much good work will be ahead for spring 2012, too!

Respectfully submitted by A. Paul Scott, Interim Superintendent of Schools

PERU CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

STATE OF THE DISTRICT JANUARY 10, 2012 REPORT

PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

BY A. PAUL SCOTT, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

