



## BREATHITT COUNTY SCHOOLS

### SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

#### PROJECT SUMMARY

REPORT DATE	SUPERINTENDENT REPORT	PREPARED BY
November 24, 2015		David Gibson

#### MONTH IN REVIEW

Breathitt County Schools has now completed 75 days of school. The past month has been very exciting for the future of Breathitt County Schools. Our Leadership team has continued to develop foundational strategies that will help secure a better future for the students of Breathitt County. We continue to show growth in developing our core processes such as stronger PLC (Professional Learning Communities) at the school level, which utilize data analysis to meet the needs of our students. Improve curriculum and instruction to develop better strategies for differentiation of instruction and novice reduction for our students. Be Data Driven in our decision making to better use of RTI plans and Diagnostic tools to meet the needs of each student, and a better understanding of how our district should work together as a unit to reach the goals set forth by our board.

Our District continues to make strides in addressing the issues raised by the 2014 State Management Audit. One of the biggest issues outlined in the audit was having in place structures to ensure effective teaching and learning are taking place. To that regard our district will be going through a Standard 3 Teaching and Learning Review December 1-3. This review will take an evidence based look at our teaching practices throughout the district. As part of that review parents, students, and staff have taken part in completing surveys and interviews. I want to thank each person that has helped in this process. The results from this review will help us become a better schools system for our students and community.

School safety is always at the forefront of everyone's thoughts. We had two safety audits conducted at SMS and MRC by the Kentucky Center for School Safety. The findings of the audits found that our schools are very safe. Also during the last month we had some incidents at our middle school and high school that prompted us to take action to ensure the safety of our students and faculty and staff. Fortunately, each of these incidents was benign and posed no serious threats to our safety. However, we live in a world where we do not have the pleasure of taking any threats lightly. I want to commend the parents, students, and staff at each of our schools for their responses to the events. I also want to thank the emergency responders for their handling of each event. It takes everyone in our community to make sure our schools are safe.

Thanksgiving is upon us again. This my favorite holiday of the year. It is a time to take stock of our lives and evaluate where we are, both professionally and personally, and where we want to go. We are doing just that here in Breathitt

County with our school system. Last night members of our community gathered together to look at where our school system is and where it is we want to go. It was a tremendous event, with over 40 people in attendance. It showed the passion that our people have for making our schools better for our kids. I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of transforming our community and schools. I am also thankful for the parents, students, faculty and staff of our county that will make this transformation possible. As we gather around with family and loved ones over the coming days, be sure to thank everyone that has made an impact in your life. I want to thank everyone in Breathitt County for the opportunity to be a part of this community.

## EVENTS ATTENDED

- October 28: Attended ARI Best Practices summit at the East Kentucky Expo Center in Pikeville.
- November 3<sup>rd</sup>: Participated with our school leadership and central office staff in Novice Reduction training conducted by Linda Rains and Vanessa Dials
- November 3<sup>rd</sup>: East Kentucky Education Recovery Director, Julia Rawlings offered a full compliment of Education Recover Leaders for each of our schools and for Central Office.
- November 5<sup>th</sup>: Participated in a Conference Call update with KDE Associate Commissioners, Dr. Kelley Foster, Kevin Brown, and Hiren Desai concerning the status of Breathitt County Schools and state management
- November 9-12: Met with each school's faculty to explain how the ER Team would help our schools develop better practices for meeting our student needs. ER team leader Carolyn Spangler spoke about what the ER team would be doing for our schools.
- November 17<sup>th</sup>: Attended KSBA led board training conducted by Jean Crowley
- November 19<sup>th</sup>: Met with Kentucky Senate President Robert Stivers to discuss funding concerns for Breathitt County Schools.
- November 23<sup>rd</sup>: Held first meeting of our community stakeholders at the Jackson Life Skills Center to begin development of district vision and mission statement. Over 40 people from the community were in attendance.