

Newsletter

Dec. 2023/Jan. 2024

Angie Bigham, District Testing Coordinator
Lynne Todd, District Parenting & Volunteer Coordinator
Kathy McMillan-Bennon, Director Academic Recovery
Amy Walborn, Administrative Assistant

Stay in the know and check out our NEW page!

All Upcoming and Past Newsletters with links and department information can be found there.

AFPPL



Upcoming Events December

- 19: Half-Day for Students
- 20-Jan 2 Winter Break

January

- 3: District PD Day [Schedule](#)
- 9: Laurens LEARNS Informational Meetings @ each school
- 15: No School (MLK Day)
- 16: Champion Tuesday (School-based)
- 22: School Board Meeting @ Waterloo Elementary

Be sure to check the [Assessment Calendar](#) for January dates.

Assessment & Intervention

December was Mid-Year and End of Course Exam Time:

Now that we have mid-year and EOC data from our first semester work; it is time to analyze this information to determine what it tells us about individual student needs and our instruction. Taking the time to target our instruction for each child the remainder of the year to fill in gaps in student understandings as well as to move them forward to reaching expected standards is best practice. Check out this [short article](#) from Edutopia on 3 simple ways data can inform your instruction.

Continuous School Improvement

Continuous School Improvement is an annual process that many schools and districts engage in to ensure that they continue to grow and meet the needs of their students and community. We are rolling this process out to all schools in Laurens 55 throughout this school year. This process is very similar to the Turnaround Plan Process that Ford Elementary, GCO Elementary, Laurens Elementary and the High School just participated in to create a plan that they are now implementing.

The process begins with a deep dive into the data available to the school and identifying 3-4 major areas that jump out as needing attention as a result of that analysis. Once identified, a plan is developed with research-based strategies designed to improve those major areas. The plan is then implemented, monitored regularly with data and adjusted/continued when needed.

We look forward to implementing this process annually moving forward with all schools beginning each school year with the newly released student data and EOY information from the previous year to drive the plan.

Laurens LEARNS

We are excited to begin to roll out more information and share the behind the scenes work that has been taking place the past few months to begin to prepare our district for the implementation of this grant.

On Tuesday, January 9, immediately following school, a district leader will come to your building to facilitate a meeting with all staff. At this meeting we will share some foundational information about this initiative, next steps and answer any questions you may have at this time. We look forward to coming to see you to begin our partnership together to raise Laurens 55 to new heights.