

SCORS Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 29, 2020

Thanks to SCORS President Don Doggett for facilitating the meeting. Don noted that some districts were not represented today because of all the issues (due to COVID 19) with which they are currently dealing.

- We were lucky to have Brenda Schrantz and Josie Kate Haupfear, from Laurens 56, with us today. (Brenda Schrantz, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction brendaschrantz@lcsd56g.com 864-938-2072)
(Josie Kate Haupfear, Director of Federal Programs Josiekatehaupfear@lcsd56g.com 864-938-2058)

Laurens 56 and Laurens 55 have formed a partnership. Speaking mostly for Laurens 56 they reported:

- We had a great start to this school year. Over the summer they held (and continue to hold) virtual community meetings called, “Ask Me Anything”. These meetings created a very open dialogue between the schools and the communities they serve. In a poll the districts took 70% of parents wanted their children to attend school in person, 5 days a week. 30% wanted virtual instruction. That is what the districts are offering and those of the percentages of participation.
 - Wearing of masks is mandatory.
 - Daily hydrostatic spraying of all facilities.
 - Districts are able to provide 6 ft. of distancing in elementary school and 4 feet in high school.
 - Each district relies on their own teachers in elementary school and shares teachers in their high schools.
 - Boards voted to give every teacher a \$500 bonus as a token of appreciation for all the extra work they have done to make the school year successful.
 - COVID has spread in the community due to lack of vigilance, but there have been only 7 cases in Lawrence 56.
 - Success is attributed to not letting their guard down and being so open with the community as well as their partnership with Lawrence 55.
- Marc Drews, Vice President of Mission and Strategic Partnerships for EdVenture Children's Museum, a premiere children's museum in Columbia, SC.
 - Due to COVID the museum was closed in March and reopened with a much-reduced staff on July 7, 2020.
 - On March 17 they “hit to airways” to connect with the community offering home activities virtually.
 - They secured funds which allowed them to offer deep discounts for membership and admission to families in financial need.
 - They have developed a pool of these families and are using that pool to help them strengthen partnerships with the community.
 - All families of first responders are given free admission.
 - They lost about 1million dollars due to their closing and are seeking ways to make up that loss.
 - They have a grant writer and hope to partner with SC poor and rural school districts by including them in their grant applications.
 - EdVenture is hoping those school districts will consider including the museum in district grant writing.
 - On November 12, EdVenture will host the SCCTM's virtual workshop featuring Dr. Francis Su, author of Mathematics for Human Flourishing. The event is free to SCCTM members. For more information, please visit SCCTM.org. Marc encouraged school leaders to help promote this professional learning event with their teachers and content specialists.
 - Arnold asked Marc to do two things:
 - Write an article about EdVenture for the SCORS website to be posted in the President's Corner.
 - Write a feature promoting a greater emphasis be directed toward efforts to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics

- Don Doggett reported about:
 - NIET offers training sessions on planning, coaching and evaluating virtual teaching.
 - <https://www.niet.org/newsroom/show/video/virtual-learning-engaging-students-models-examples> (the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching created the framework for the 4.0 Teaching Rubric)
 - SC Department of Education is working with the SERVE Center at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Family and Community Engagement Center. Yolande Anderson is the Director of Family and Community Engagement at the SCDE to engage parents, grandparents and other caregivers in the new virtual learning environment.
 - ALL4SC, which partners University of South Carolina with Fairfield County School District in a myriad of ways to help students and community members, is considering expanding to Clarendon 1 and 3, Marlboro SD and Beaufort SD.
 - It is the intention of USC to connect their students to every single student, K-12, in South Carolina through President Caslien's Mentoring Initiative.
 - USC is planning to offer education majors a set of classes concerning Community Based Schooling and for schools to learn about and design a community-based school model for implementation of at least one component in the fall.
 - The STEAM Initiative is on hold due to the Pandemic.

- Arnold reported:
 - Last year the leadership of the SC legislature asked SCORS to offer constructive suggestions for addressing 8 education problems in SC.
 - One solution SCORS offered addressed legislation that would create a number of RESAs (Regional Education Service Agency) around the State. RESAs give education consortia legal status, enabling them, along with member school districts, to come together to write grants, do economic development, professional development, joint purchasing, etc. The establishment of SC RESAs would mandate that schools work together.

Minutes submitted by Carol Hillman, Secretary of SCORS