



ELPS Superintendent's Report November 13, 2023

*ELPS Updates will be sent every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, following Monday Board of Education meetings.

No Classes November 22-24 for Thanksgiving Break

Just a reminder that there is no school next week, Wednesday through Friday, Nov. 22 – 24. Classes will resume Monday, November 27.

Summary of Friday's Professional Learning Day

This past Friday, ELPS staff participated in their second of five Professional Learning Fridays. We offered 17 different sessions for the morning learning sessions.

All district staff were involved in morning sessions that centered around one or more of our district goals and mission statement:

- 107 individuals participated in learning around mental health, social emotional learning and wellness
- 168 individuals participated in learning around teaching and learning
- 114 individuals participated in learning around diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging and social justice

Many of our sessions intersect two or more of these district focus areas. A few specific highlights of Friday:

- 40 staff members learned about De-escalation Strategies with Secure Education Consultants
- 23 staff members completed their second and final session of AED/CPR
- 21 staff members learned about the Neurosequential Model of Education with mental health specialists
- 17 staff members participated in K-12 CHAMPS (classroom PBIS)
- 30 staff members learned strategies to better support students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- 20 staff members learned about using Restorative Practices in the Classroom
- 23 staff members participated in Joy as Resistance and Establishing Healthy Boundaries with the Justice Leaders Collaborative
- 39 staff members participated in a District & Community Bus Tour with myself and Glenn
- 18 staff members learned from four of our local interfaith clergy on Understanding the ELPS Religious and Cultural Calendar

In the afternoon, elementary staff continued their work on PBIS and Second Step integration as a building team. Secondary staff members met with their self-selected Building Work Group and reported out their progress and plans to their full staff at the end of the session.

We look forward to our next professional learning Friday on February 16, 2024.

Snow Day Decisions and Communication

As we enter the "Snow Day Season," I'd like to share some information about how the decision of whether or not to cancel school is made and how a school closing will be communicated.

1. Many weather factors are considered when determining whether or not to cancel school:
 - Amount of snow (current and predicted)
 - Timing of snow
 - Temperature and wind chill (sustained wind chills of -20 degrees or lower will result in school closing or delay)
 - Road and sidewalk conditions (including conditions for busses and young drivers)
 - Other factors such as blowing and drifting, ice or freezing rain, visibility, power outages

I do a road check throughout the district beginning around 4:15 a.m. and communicate with other local superintendents and often the City of EL and/or ELPD.

2. When possible, we will make the call the night before in order to give families as much time as possible to prepare. If a decision to close schools is made the night before, it will be communicated no later than 10:00 p.m.

If the decision to close schools is made in the morning, we do our best to communicate by 5:30 a.m. (and no later than 6:00 a.m.).

3. If a decision is made to close school, the closing is communicated to staff and families via the following methods:

- Robocall to staff and families (make sure your phone number is current in PowerSchool)
- ELPS Facebook Page
- ELPS Website - main page
- Twitter - Follow me to hear it first! @ELPSSupt
- Local news media: WILX, WLNS, Fox 47, WKAR, WFMK

4. Information about other events (practices, games, concerts, etc.) will be made later in the morning and communicated through coaches and advisors and/or the district website.

Next Board of Education Meeting is November 27, 2023

The next meeting of the Board of Education is Monday, November 27, 2023.