

Steger School District 194

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Dear Parents of Steger SD 194 Students,

As you may know, the faculty and administration of the Steger 194 school district have just completed our first year of training and implementation in the concepts and practices of Professional Learning Communities. The PLC mindset focuses on answering four important questions regarding student learning. They are -

- 1. What do we want students to learn? (essential curriculum)
- 2. How will we know when they have learned it? (student assessment)
- 3. What will we do if they already know it? (enrichment)
- 4. What will we do if they haven't learned it? (intervention)

In order to do the work necessary to focus on these essential questions, faculty and staff will need to meet on a regular basis. The district has determined that those meetings will take place every Wednesday over the entire school year.

Consequently, we will be releasing students from school at 1:30 p.m. every Wednesday throughout the 2019-2020 school year. The first day of the Wednesday early release will occur on August 28 and continue throughout the school year.

During these meeting times, administrators, teachers, and staff members will be engaged in the work of Professional Learning Communities. Here are some examples of activities that may occur during this weekly meeting.

- Determining what team members want students to learn from within the essential standards
- Determining the pacing of teaching essential learning standards
- Writing and administering common formative assessments
- Compiling and disaggregating student data from common formative assessments
- Determining which students should receive enrichment and/or extra interventions and evaluate their success

We look forward to continuing our district journey as a Professional Learning Community and appreciate your support as we do the necessary work to help us reach our main goal – the improvement of student learning.

To help you plan for the 2019-20 school year, you may access the Steger 194 school district calendar by going to our school district website to our Facebook site. You may also pick up a paper copy of the calendar in the foyer of the Administrative Center at 3753 Park Avenue any time over the summer.

Yours in education,

Dr. David T. Frusher Superintendent of Schools