

GCCS announces administrative changes

Written by Administrator

Wednesday, 24 March 2010 00:00 - Last Updated Wednesday, 24 March 2010 13:34

On Thursday, March 18, Dr. Stephen Daeschner, Superintendent of Greater Clark County Schools, announced two administrative changes for the 2010-2011 school year.

Steve Morris will assume a new position in the Greater Clark County School Corporation as Principal of Development. The Principal of Development position will be responsible for the following district wide instructional responsibilities:

- *Assisting with professional development delivery throughout the District to secondary schools (middle and high schools).

- *Developmental and implementation of an evaluation model for professional development.

- *Development of a secondary counseling model; implementation and training of counselors on model.

- *Development and implementation of an evaluation tool for secondary counseling model.

- *Improve transition of all District eighth graders to ninth grade.

- *Assist with coordination of alternative education opportunities for secondary students.

- *Design and implement end-of-course testing for middle and high school core courses.

- *Coordinate the implementation of the "Race to the Top" district-wide proposal.

- *Assist in coordination of intervention model for all secondary schools.

- *Assist Assistant Superintendent for Leadership and Superintendent on duties as assigned.

- *Any other duties as assigned by the Superintendent.

The second administrative change is the James Sexton, Principal of the Options Program, will become the Principal of Jeffersonville High School and the Options Program. Both administrative changes will take effect July 1. The announcement was made at this time so that Morris and Sexton can work together to plan for the 2010-2011 school year, and Mr. Morris can work with the Corporation's Instruction Department to plan summer staff Professional Development.

Morris has been Principal of Jeffersonville High School since 2006. During his tenure at Jeffersonville High School, Morris has initiated the following programs to address student needs:

- *Implemented the Freshman Academy to improve student transition from middle school to high school.

- *Established a Parent Teacher Organization to improve parent involvement in Jeffersonville High School programs.

- *Enrolled Jeffersonville High School in the first Indiana High School Cohort of the National Math and Science Initiative which focused on enrolling under-represented students in Advanced Placement Courses.

- *Supported the ninth grade ASSIST Mentoring Program.

- *Implemented an after-school extra time credit recovery program for students in danger of failing classes during the regular school day.

- *Increased the graduation rate by eight percent.

Prior to his employment at Jeffersonville High School, Morris served as Principal at Clarksville High School for six years. During that time, he was a finalist for Indiana Principal of the Year in 2003 and the Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP) District 12 President from 2004-2006. He currently serves on the IASP Board of Directors.

Sexton, Principal of the Options Program, has been with Greater Clark County Schools since August 2009. Sexton came to Greater Clark County Schools after 42 years with Jefferson

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County Public Schools in Louisville. While at the Options Program, he has eliminated expulsions from Greater Clark County Schools.

During his last 20 years in Jefferson County, Sexton was Principal of Eastern High School. As Principal of Eastern High School, he led the following initiatives:

- *Raised the schools achievement on the Advanced Placement exams to the "Newsweek Magazine" Top 1,000 High Schools in the nation for the last five years.

- *Rated in the top seven public schools in Kentucky for the last five years and rated #2 in the Louisville area.

- *Initiated Advanced Program classes at the school that raised the number of tests taken from 10 to 1,200 tests. Eastern High School has been issued a score of 9 out of 10 from the national "Great Schools" programs at www.greatschools.org.

- *Had one of Kentucky's first wireless high schools.

- *Had the only school in the country that initiated a technology requirement that in order to graduate from high school, a student must pass two years of technology education.

- *Increased vocal and instrumental programs to 150 band, 120 orchestra, 75 guitar and 200 vocal participants.

- *Raised student enrollment from 1,240 students to 2,300 students at the school.

- *Selected by Ted Sizer of Brown University, a national reform educator, to participate in the Coalition of Essential Schools.

- *Worked to eliminate the lower level education tract which required all students to take higher level education classes.

- *Had several state champion athletic teams.

Prior to being Principal at Eastern High School, Sexton was Executive Director of High Schools for JCPS and was Principal of Jeffersontown high School for six years. Sexton was greatly involved in the community where Eastern High School was located. One year he served as President of the local Chamber of Commerce.

Other administrative responsibilities are being reorganized in the central office so that the vacancy that was created by a retirement in the central office can be absorbed resulting in no added positions to the central office.