School District of Juda

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Shared Services Panel July 20, 2022

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- Roles that I have served in at the District:Superintendent, Director of Pupil Services/Special Education, Principal, School Psychologist, curriculum, human resources
- 2021-2022-Superintendent and Director of Pupil Services/Special Education in Juda and Director of Pupil Services/Special Education in Monticello
- Title IX Coordinator for the Blackhawk School District

Other staff that we share:

- Speech pathologist
- Elementary school counselor
- Library/media Specialist
- School psychologist (with three districts)
- Director of pupil services/special education
- Math Teachers (3)
- English Teacher (plus UW Oshkosh)
- Psychology Teacher
- Social Studies Teacher
- Business Teacher
- Physics Teacher
- Statistics Teacher
- Title IX roles

Other Services that we share:

- JAMBB-Juda, Albany, Monticello, Blackhawk and Brodhead
- Professional Development (speakers, trainings)
- Classes
- Curriculum costs (materials and training)
- Bundle pricing for programs (or at least we try)-i.e. SEL program-PASS

Ideas that have been shared in the past or ideas for the future:

- Trap shooting with FFAs
- Music-band and choir sharing
- Other staff options-i.e. DAC for two or three districts, curriculum director for 2 or 3 districts

CESA involvement:

Juda is one of if not the smallest district in CESA 2. CESA 2 has 74 districts in 7 different counties. They have supported us with regional meetings to check in and keep us connected.

- We utilize the resource library so we don't have to buy all of the materials/assessments
- We utilize coaches or professional support
- We utilize very specific special education services-Deaf and Hard of hearing teacher for example, but they are not able to help with other staffing-i.e. school psychologist, speech therapist

Positives:

- Students get more opportunities and choices for classes and activities, but get to remain in their home school
- Decreased costs
- Networking-get to work with others in the same types of school
- Over the years we have developed the same or very similar bell schedules and calendars
- Students able to graduate with 100s of dual enrollment or college credits that they wouldn't be able to if not sharing

Challenges:

- It is hard to travel, be a part of two different (or sometimes three) schools and communities. You need to be very organized, i.e.you have two sets of passwords, possibly data systems, calendars, etc. (between the two districts this year I had easily over 40 different log-ins)
- Board and community are at times reluctant to share-worried about split time, not getting equal time, worried about losing a sense of community
- Even in small districts, you have the same reports, mandates, etc. and need to know a little about everything

Incentives/Things to make it easier to share

- Iowa Model-Each district that shares a staff gets a certain amount of student FTE added to their count. For example, if we share a superintendent, each district would get 9 FTE added to their count
- One student data system-easier for staff to use, log in, etc.-makes people more efficient if they don't need to learn multiple systems
- DPI-one login and be able to toggle between districts (i.e. we can do that in the medicaid systems)
- Staff need a space when they travel-they need to be able to walk right in and start doing their job, not find a place to work, find a computer, etc.
- They need to be included so that they feel part of both districts (on emails, included in meetings, events, etc.)

Thank you for your time and opportunity to discuss this topic. I believe the small schools offer a plethora of opportunities for our youth to be able to become career, college and citizen ready. Staff in small schools are, in my opinion, some of the most dedicated and talented because they need to teach and perform many different tasks and they are able to make significant connections and positive relationships with their students.

Jani Des