

## Trustlands Final Report 2016-16

**The following is a summary of our final report of use of trustland funds for school year 2015/16 for Salem Junior High:**

Goal #1: As we continue to train and implement procedures, programs, etc. to increase student learning, we will employ a learning cycle for staff members that consists of best practice research, staff development, implementation, reflection/evaluation, and modification.

Measurements: During the school year, we had 13 different teachers participate in 152 hours of PD that was paid for by Trustlands money. Some of the money was used for Conference fees and some for substitute teachers. This represents an increase of 11 percent over last year's hours. These conferences included training in Gifted Education, English Instruction, use of Technology in the Classroom, Literacy, and Fine Arts instruction.

During the summer months, 41 of our teachers participated in 648 hours of professional development that was paid for by Trustland funds. This represents 91% of our teachers participating. This training is an integral part of our professional learning communities and helps teachers define what they want students to learn, how they will assess student learning, and what they will do to ensure all students are meeting the learning standards.

Each month, a professional development meeting was held at the school, focusing on best practice instruction in reading across the curriculum. We had an average attendance of 75% at these meetings. Trustlands monies were not used for this purpose.

Our Sage scores improved this year, especially in Language Arts, which was our focus this year in our professional development. We went from 46% proficient in 2015 to 51% proficient in Language Arts in 2016.

Action Plan: Our School Leadership Team met every two weeks to direct the work of our PLC teams and professional development toward school goals. We reflected on our current practice and made plans for improvement.

Our book study was 'Teach Like a Pirate,' and was focused on student engagement in the classroom. We held two days of Summer PD meetings as described above. 91% of our teachers participated in these.

Our Youth Support Team met weekly to discuss the needs of individual students. This meeting involved Administration, Counselors, School Psychologist, Speech Pathologist, Special Education Teacher, Tracker, and Attendance Secretary. Our grade level teams met twice each term to also

follow-up on individual student growth. A shared Google Doc allowed these teachers to track the progress of each student identified.

Appropriate and targeted professional development opportunities were identified and teachers selected to attend. Many of these opportunities were funded with Trustlands money.

Goal # 2: Explore and utilize up-to-date technology in the classroom to enhance curriculum, assessment and data analysis.

Measurements: Survey results from our teachers on the use of technology are:

54 % of teachers are using Canvas (a learning management tool) in the classroom. The previous year, we only had 11% using Canvas.

29% of our teachers report using personal student devices 'daily' during instruction. An additional 29% say they use them at least half of their teaching days. Only 39 % say they use them 'occasionally' and only one teacher said they use them rarely. The previous year, 50% of our teachers reported using these tools 'rarely,' and only 30% said they used them on a weekly basis.

61% of our teachers say that students can access their classroom materials online and 10 of our teachers link their website to our school website. The total number of teacher websites linked to the school website needs to increase for student and parent ease of access.

Our teachers report using many online tools in the classroom, including Kahoot, Quizlet Live, NearPod, Geoguessr, Aleks, Utah Compose, and Smart Music.

With Trustland money, we purchased a set of Chromebooks and Cart to store and charge them. We also purchased a MacBook for use at our school. We bought other technology devices with other school funds. We now have 15 classroom sets of Chromebooks in our school.

Action Plan: We employed a digital coach to help teachers understand and use Canvas and other online tools. WE have used professional development meetings to ensure that everyone got some training and extra meetings for those who wanted to go into more depth in their use of technology. We purchased additional Chromebook labs with Trustland and Textbook funds to allow more access for student devices in the classroom. Our school district upgraded the networking capability in our school to handle the increased demand. We are continuing to remind teachers to link their webpages and other tools to the school website.

Goal #3: Maintain highest quality instruction through reducing class size where possible.

Measurements: Our Sage Data for 2016 showed an increase of 5% in Language Arts, an increase of 1% in Science and Math proficiency stayed the same. Our overall growth score increased from 77 to 93. We see this as a function of many things, but certainly having enough teachers to keep class size down helps.

Because of the use of Trustland funds for a teacher in English and a teacher in Social Studies our class sizes were reduced in these areas. The average class size in English is 32. Without the extra teacher and use of Trustland funds, it would have been 41. The average class size in Social Studies is 33. Without the extra teacher and use of Trustland funds, it would have been 43.

Action Plan: We hired 2 additional teachers with Trustland funds. We used the USTAR Grant funds to buy extra periods for Math and science teachers, further reducing class sizes.