Superintendent Update, Response to Public Comment
February 24th, 2020 | Topic: Society for Student Resistance

In response to public comment on February 11th, I want to share with you the progress currently in place by Saline Area Schools related to the seven action steps established by *The Society for Student Resistance:*

1. **Collaboration with stakeholders:** Hosting various meetings (town hall, community conversations and listening sessions) for consultation of our process. Primary focus is student involvement and both local and regional input.
2. **Implementation of policy:** Reviewing board policy on controversial issues, with a specific focus on hate speech.
3. **Diversity in staffing:** Actively attending job fairs seeking more diverse candidates, reaching out to nontraditional organizations on how to broaden our candidate pool.
4. **SAS staff social justice training:** Justice Leaders of various levels reside in all of our buildings, and we have building-wide goals that support social thinking/inclusive environments for all learners. Developing a plan to get all our teachers and staff trained in equitable practices.
5. **Culturally responsive curriculum**: Reviewing/mapping Y5-26 curriculum, expanding classroom libraries and drafting framework that defines our commitment.
6. **Mechanisms for reporting hate speech:** Current platforms include “Hornet Hotline” and “Safe To Say.” Programming led by Saline Counselors and Social Workers and Bystander Training for staff members.
7. **Celebration of Marginalized Stakeholders:** Many events over the last few years, including: Uproar presentations, Jay Marks at Opening Day, MLK presentation at Liberty School, Dr. Lapchik presentation and individual Justice Leaders developing building level changes related to inclusion.

We are confident, with the support of our students, teachers, support staff, administrators and community members, that we are moving towards a sustainable model of inclusion in the Saline Area Schools. The next meeting with *The Society for Student Resistance* is set for March 12th, where we will continue to make progress towards the seven action steps.