

To: Marlinton Board of Education  
From: Mrs. Anna Minor, Assistant Superintendent  
Re: Curriculum and RttT Updates  
Date: May 15, 2014

1. Recent Press Release

**Ugandan PHD Candidate Visits with Marlinton CTE Students**

ALLIANCE, OHIO – May 6, 2014 – Dr. Denis Katusiime from the Kisubi Brothers University in Uganda met with Career and Technical Education students at Marlinton High School on April 30.

Currently finishing his dissertation in the U.S., Dr. Katusiime spoke to students about Uganda, horticulture, and the technical training and education available to students. He also toured the horticulture, landscaping, natural resources, oil and gas, and accounting programs. Horticulture Instructor Tiffany Woods organized the visit.

“This was a great opportunity for our students to connect what they are learning to a global society,” said Woods. “Dr. Katusiime provided some great insight, and the students were able to ask questions and understand the relevance of their programs.”

As part of his studies, Dr. Katusiime is researching the CTE programs in the U.S. in order to make suggestions to the government of Uganda regarding the country’s CTE training. His mission is to promote the CTE fields in his country, develop a stronger curriculum, and advance the opportunities available to Ugandan students.

“On behalf of the Marlinton Local School District, I would like to thank Dr. Katusiime for visiting with our CTE students,” said Superintendent Joe Knoll. “We are grateful to have such an outstanding CTE Program here at Marlinton, and Dr. Katusiime helped the students further understand the importance of working hard and taking pride in their education.”

2. As part of the action steps to our gifted plan, on April 30<sup>th</sup>, we held our first annual “Scholar Night”. There were approximately 60 families in attendance, primarily incoming freshman to learn more about the many rigorous offerings at the high school, such as honors courses, dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, and Post Secondary Education Options. The evening began with Mr. Pepper presenting each option in a general session. Afterwards, attendees were invited to the cafeteria where 13 staff members volunteered their time to talk with both students and parents about the specifics of their class. Some teachers also had current students available to share their views of the class. Likewise, Mrs. Smith, one of our high school counselor, and Mrs. Wearstler, our gifted and talented coordinator, were in attendance for parents to speak to on any issue of concern. We

received many positive comments from parents as they left thanking us for a wonderful evening. We believe this evening was a huge success.

3. Value- Added and SLOs- Teachers in grades 4-8 are in the process of “linking” their students in the State’s site for determination in the value-added results for next year. This information is directly downloaded by ODE for the student growth measure in the teacher’s evaluation for the following year. Likewise, it has been an extremely busy few weeks analyzing SLO data that was input for teachers growth measures where no value-added was available. Wendy and I have spent many days analyzing the results of this first round of SLO testing. We have looked at trends, any errors in reporting, growth rate per teacher and content subject, how well students with special needs scored and many other areas. We will be meeting with the RttT Transformation on May 20, 2014 to discuss the process, analyze data, and discuss any changes for the future.