

HOT SPRINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

**415 SPRINGVIEW
THERMOPOLIS, WY 82443**

Marty Kobza
Superintendent of Schools

Phone: 307-864-6515
Fax: 307-864-6615

Kelly Andreen
Board/Supt. Secretary

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To Whom It May Concern:

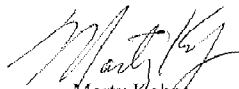
I have had the opportunity to work with the Curriculum Leadership Institute (CLI) for 7 years in both Kansas and Wyoming. In Kansas, I was Superintendent of Schools in Eudora, Kansas where CLI was implemented seven years ago. We were barely making AYP and had a disconnected and dysfunctional academic program and curriculum. Only about 60% of our students were proficient in reading and math. After having CLI implemented for 5 years our proficiency levels were over 90% and our ACT scores went from an average of 19.7 to 22.5.

This happened because CLI helped us to develop a systematic way in which to align our curriculum to state and national standards and ensure vertical and horizontal alignment within our own district. This program is not packaged or scripted. It is locally developed and empowers teachers to act as the experts in the field. This was a shift in how business was done previously. During this same period of time we were moving toward Professional Learning Communities within our district. The CLI process aligned perfectly with PLCs.

Hot Springs County School District #1 began its relationship with CLI this year. Many of the same issues that were faced in the Eudora, Kansas district were in Hot Springs County. In addition, we needed a system that the teachers could trust to be in place for a long period of time regardless of administrative changes. The board, administration, and staff feel that CLI will provide us with this stability.

One of the challenges we face in our district is compliance with assessment issues and the Body of Evidence system in Wyoming. The review of BOEs and all of our standards assessments will fit into the CLI process very well. We are happy that we will be able to consolidate the efforts of several different groups into one systematic and streamlined process. If you are interested in witnessing the process at work, we invite you to come to our district during one of our work sessions. If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Marty Kobza
Superintendent of Schools

The State of Wyoming provides Hathaway Merit and Need Scholarships to Wyoming students attending the University of Wyoming and Wyoming Community Colleges. Every Wyoming student who meets the merit requirements can earn a Hathaway Merit Scholarship. Contact your school counselor for more information.