## Ryan T. Neal, Assistant Superintendent



Last year the PDC focused on what was the best way for our district professional funds to be allocated to the teacher. A flowchart was created for the staff (PDC Flowchart). The team decided to divide the total amount of 1% money by the total number of teachers, then multiply that amount by the number of teachers of each building. That gave the buildings a lump sum to provide out of district professional development. Each building now determines how the money will go to the teachers through a committee. When teachers request to attend a professional development opportunity they are asked to fill out a form to show how the professional development will support our district's strategic plan. Upon their return they are required to share their findings with their fellow staff members.

The Professional Development Committee's main concern has been the accountability of teachers that attended conference and they are disseminating information to their colleagues upon their return. In the new format, a teacher will return from a conference and fill out a <u>reflection form</u>, then meet with a member of the PDC to set up a time to present to teachers. The date will be put on the district PDC calendar for all staff members to view. The PDC team is also keeping track of the conferences attending and feedback as to whether they were worth the money.

This year we have also focused on what can be done to support our staff members that are not able to attend a conference. Each building has sent out a survey based on the needs of their building, in support of their building's strategic plan. From those surveys, we have found that technology and formative assessments are the two main areas that teachers would like professional development.

Additionally, we have created a district <u>PDC blog</u> for members to view all things PDC. Eventually staff members will be able to click on in-service presentations of staff members in content and strategy specific areas. The members of the team will ask teachers to present in areas of their expertise to be recorded and post this to the blog.