

Administrator Report April 2014

Section 1.0 Vision

Development, articulation, implementation, and stewardship of a vision of learning that is shared and supported by the school community.

Health and Sex Ed Curriculum Update – Sara Dews and Amy Riley have been working diligently on helping us craft this framework. Parent information sessions are scheduled for Friday May 2nd – at 3:30 and 5:30. The presentations will be for 5th grade students only this year.

Children’s Assessment Center Presentation – Kidz Have Rights - March 12, 13, 14 – This is a developmentally appropriate program designed to raise awareness for children regarding appropriate and inappropriate situations with other children and adults. The staff and students were very receptive and follow-up discussions are ongoing.

Kitty Cairns Donation – First installment has been received. This year 50% is earmarked for the school and 50% for the park project per Kitty’s wishes. We thank her tremendously for her generosity.

Section 2.0 School Culture

Cultivation and support of a school culture and instructional program conducive to student learning and staff professional growth.

Rtl Update – Discovery A – The following statement is provided by the Discovery A Team:

“Beth Scarbrough was instrumental in helping Discovery A bring our struggling students’ reading scores to or near grade level this year. Discovery A had always taught the alphabet to align with the handwriting curriculum, and Beth strategically advised us to teach the letter sounds with a phonics scope and sequence to enable earlier CVC word family building. Her other simple, strategic suggestions helped us maximize outcomes with minimal change in our practice. Her suggestions included developing a leveled library with books we could keep in the classroom, and having daily reading of these books at a level above their instructional level. We had somehow learned that the students need to read only at their independent level for this independent reading time, which was holding them back. I personally was advised to solely focus on decoding work with the early readers, a change from former advice of targeting comprehension as much as decoding. I depended on Beth for advise and expertise regarding my ELL students. I needed this to knowingly reassure the parents that their child was making sufficient progress when they seemed to be in a holding pattern, and that there were no learning disabilities. Beth and Harmony’s support and encouragement with our Tier 3 students has been a successful addition to our system of education based on relationship!” Anne Rasch and Molly Parker

Open House – Wonderful event – many new families attended – more than in previous years

Portfolio Day – next Wednesday – April 23rd - Plans and preparations are in full swing

End of Year Celebration – Monday June 2nd – we are discussing changing the meal to Yesterdog – and having live music

Section 3.0 Management

Management of the organization, operations and resources for a safe, efficient, and effective learning environment.

Workmen’s Comp Audit – March 19, 2014 – review of payroll records showed our previous estimate [set by insurance agency and previous year’s payroll numbers] was \$250,000 higher for instructional and support staff – we will be receiving a credit on our premium in the upcoming quarter.

Focus School Meeting and Presentation from Marcia Kaye – District Improvement Facilitator – March 13th – Marcia attended our CP and presented resources and strategies for improving student performance.

Brick Work Repair and Completion – Will call Acadia Masonry tomorrow to reschedule.

Section 4.0 Relationships

Relationship-building with community members, responsiveness to diverse perspectives, and mobilization of community resources

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 5 – 9, 2014 – working with Family Team to coordinate

Arbor Day Activity with Urban Forest Project – Janay Brower and I met with Dottie Clune and Lee Mueller to coordinate a study and acorn planting with the 5th grade and tree plantings for the GRCDC campus. Friday April, 25th

Albemarle Science Presentation – new parent Amit Thakker, father of Rohan, Discovery C – and his colleagues are going to provide a demonstration for our entire school on this day as well.

Section 6.0 Advocacy/ Section 5.0 Professionalism

Professional conduct characterized by integrity, fairness, and ethical behavior

Advocacy on behalf of the school by understanding, responding to, and influencing the larger political, social, economic, legal and cultural context

Meeting with Teresa Neal – March 26th – This went very well, she said very complimentary things about us, and it is evident she has kept herself informed on our progress, accomplishments, and status [e.g. Focus School] She sees the Charter Contract approval as a formality, and will discuss our current situation with her Board – especially the search for a new Principal. We are in the process of scheduling the next meeting with district’s legal counsel – this should take place before the end of the month.

Report on Prior Board Directives/Recommendations

Other Relevant Updates, Requests, or New Business

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin Melcher, Principal and Executive Director