

## **Principal's Report for Peirce Elementary**

Principal Lori Zaimi

December 21, 2017

### **Competency A: Champions Teacher and Staff Excellence Through a Focus on Continuous Improvement to Develop and Achieve the Vision of High Expectations for All Students**

- CIWP Updates
- Data Based Decision Making, Supports and develops high functioning teams
- School personnel and financial resources are used to support CIWP priorities.
- Creates a safe and orderly environment.

- CIWP Update - All grade level and specialists teams provided feedback around our 2016-2018 CIWP and looked for upcoming needs, initial feedback suggests that we consider the following priority areas for the 2018-2020 CIWP: Instruction, MTSS, Balanced Assessment & Grading, Restorative Approaches to Discipline
- CIWP Parent Focus Groups & Surveys are coming in January.
- Grade level teams have been examining Formative & Summative assessment data during grade level meetings.
- During the December 20th Flex Day, Teachers engaged in the use of math games in the classroom in PK-5th, Summative Assessment Analysis & IB Unit Feedback in MYP and all staff participated in either Restorative Practices 101 or Restorative Conversations.
- Ms. Amaro, Dr. Terzian, Mr. Trad & Ms. Zaimi have attended Restorative Practice Workshops over the last month including RP 101 & Talking Circles. They have also met with the school's RP Coach and received feedback on the professional development plan.
- Ms. Zaimi held a workshop for recess staff around Restorative Practices at Peirce along with how to have a restorative conversation with students.
- Committee meetings were held at the end of November, committees provide input around topics for grade level meetings (ex: Restorative Practice, Assessments)
- 3 people have responded to the weekly recess survey over the last month, 1 issue was reported as having returned to the classroom.
- Attendance is currently at 96.81%, we are currently 4th in network 2!
- MAP Testing is almost completed for 2nd-8th grade students, we will be reviewing data once winter break is over and revisiting RTI Groups and schedules.
- DIBELS/TRC will continue through the middle of January, this is the Middle of the Year assessment for us to track student growth in reading.

- Progress Reports will go home on Monday, January 8th.
- Our Year-to-Date on-track rate is currently 80.78%, last year at this time we were at 71.8%
- We are applying for the Supportive Schools Certification, applications need to be submitted by December 22nd. Last year we received the rating of Established and this year we would like to be in the exemplary (highest) category. Our 3 focus areas for our action plan are Student-Teacher Relationships, Student-Student Relationships & Supportive Discipline.
- The Magnet Schools Conference will be held in Chicago in April and Peirce was one of the Magnet Schools in Chicago to be selected as a tour site! Teachers from across the country will visit Peirce and Senn to highlight our IB Program.
- We received a grade of "B" from the Facilities Blitz Inspection, a final report will be given to principals over the next couple of weeks. Feedback that was received during the exit meeting indicated that we still have classrooms and closets with a lot of clutter that need to be cleaned out. Concerns regarding chipping and peeling paint in some classrooms and hallways.

**Competency B: Creates Powerful Professional Learning Systems to Guarantee Learning for All Students.**

- Lesson Plan and Unit Development aligned to IB standards and CCSS.
- Curriculum Planning with a focus on our Diverse Learner and English Language Learner population.
- Ongoing Professional Development and instructional coaching
- REACH Teacher Observations with constructive feedback provided to teachers.
- Staff hiring

- Teachers in K-5 are developing common summative assessments in math.
- We received 2 positions for our Special Education Program - 1 teacher and 1 SECA, it is possible that both positions will be closed after winter break due to changes in enrollment.
- Through My Voice My School survey data, teachers have requested more of an administrator presence in the classroom to provide feedback on teaching, we are working on a plan to provide more feedback to teachers on instructional practices.
- REACH observations continue, we are approximately halfway finished.
- We are currently looking for a science temporary assigned teacher to fill a short term leave position. If the 2 Sp.Ed. vacancies remain we will also move to fill those positions.

- Teachers participated in an IB Inquiry Walk around differentiation in the IB Classroom.
- Members of the Network 2 team visited Peirce to engage in a CAPE visit (Curriculum, Assessment, Practice, Assessment). There were 8 areas of focus for the visit, see below for findings, see attached documents as well:
  - Instructional Task or Assessment is aligned to CCSS/NGSS Standards **(evident in 100% of classrooms visited)**
  - Evidence of task complexity (refer to DOK Levels 3 or 4 or higher-order thinking skills on Blooms Taxonomy) **(evident in 20% of classrooms visited)**
  - Text is at an appropriate level of complexity **(evident in 100% of classrooms visited)**
  - Students on task **(evident in 100% of classrooms visited)**
  - Evidence of Checking for Understanding **(40% evident, 40% partially evident, 20% not evident)**
  - Agency, Authority, Identity **(evident in 40% of classrooms visited)**
  - Evidence of Formative assessment **(evident in 60% of classrooms)**
  - Evidence of differentiation for all learners **(evident in 80% of classrooms)**
- Network 2 has a new Deputy Chief - Molly Watson
- Peirce teachers are leading work around the implementation of an African American Showcase for February.

**Competency C: Builds a Culture Focused on College and Career Readiness**

- Academic and Social Emotional Learning Goals, Student Portfolios
- College Visits, HS Visits, Career Day
- Access to an enriching curriculum which includes the arts and science.
- Use of restorative practices for student supports.

- All high school applications must be submitted by December 22nd.
- A group of students have created an initial draft of a student survey which will be administered after winter break.
- Student of the Month continues!
- 28 students are signed up for the Washington D.C. trip, 6 full scholarships and 6 partial scholarships were awarded the week of December 18th. Depending on fundraising efforts, more scholarship money may be available this year.
- Student Council is hosting a Spirit Day on December 22nd.

- Congratulations to Ms. Thompson, Ms. Leander & Mr. Ricco (student teacher) on the 5th Grade Musical! Students did a wonderful job showcasing their talents.
- 8th grade students participated in a day of team-building at Iron Oaks, Michael Roper and Louise Molnar, owners of Hopleaf generously paid for the entire trip!
- Students participated in a Storytelling Assembly, while the assembly was taking place, teachers were able to meet vertically to discuss CIWP.
- 8th grade students took a tour of Senn High School.
- 4th-8th grade students attended a University Basketball Game at either DePaul or Northwestern Universities.
- 4th grade students concluded their partnership with Barrel of Monkeys and had the opportunity to view pieces of their writing acted out on stage.
- 5th grade students participated in classroom presentations from UNICEF.
- Students from Peirce and Decatur participated in a winter band performance - it was great to see how much our band has expanded!
- Students in Bollywood and Peirce Performers participated in the 48th ward concert at Senn High School.
- Classroom Spelling Bees took place this week, the school spelling bee will be held after winter break.
- Congratulations to Ms. Moritz, Ms. Thompson & Mr. Ricco for their work on the Winter Showcase!
- Dr. Riemer and Ms. Zaimi hosted a lunch for students in 6th-8th grades that made the Principal Honor Roll (straight As in all subjects).

**Competency D: Empowers and Motivates Families and the Community to Become Engaged.**

- Families engage in PTA, PTO, BAC, PAC, parent-teacher conferences and other school related events.
- Newsletters, open-house, report card pick up, family events, robo calls
- Addresses family concerns
- Engages LSC in school governance.

- Ms. Lebovitz held a meeting for parents on the 5th grade Exhibition.

- Ms. Fisher and Ms. Lebovitz along with the PK team hosted a PK IB Behind the Scenes Tour which focused on developing student independence.
- Ms. Kolontouros hosted a workshop for parents on Inclusive Practices and how these are used at Peirce/what inclusion looks like in a general education classroom.
- Peirce parents organized a Parent Tour & Open House for new families, approximately 30 people attended.
- The PAC & BAC groups met and discussed possible opportunities for parent education (Race & Equity, Special Education, Restorative Practices, etc)
- CIWP Focus Groups will begin in January, led by parents and a CIWP survey will be sent out.
- Principal sends a monthly e-newsletter home to families, works with parent leaders in maintenance of the school website and supports the dissemination of information to the school and PSO Facebook sites.
- Principal works to have a 24 hour turn around window when responding to parent and family inquiries although in some cases 48-72 hours is needed.

**Competency E: Relentlessly Pursues Self-Disciplined Thinking and Action.**

- Values and accepts diversity
- Builds collaboration between groups
- Responds and resolves concerns related to students, staff, parents and community members.
- Uses ongoing written and oral communication to effectively communicate with different stakeholders about school curriculum, activities, student achievement, and safety.
- Motivates and inspires staff to contribute to success of school.
- Maintains honesty, integrity, and professionalism in carrying out leadership responsibilities.

- Principal was asked to participate on a Lesson Study panel at the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics Conference.
- Principal continues to participate in the Public Education Funds Educator Advisory Working Group.
- My Voice My School Feedback from staff - several have requested additional feedback on instructional practices and want to have an admin presence in classrooms more frequently, working to come up with a plan to make this happen.
- Principal and Assistant Principal use the “timetrack” calendar to record work with staff and schedule out the day, in addition a coach works with both administrators on a monthly basis to review data and provide coaching support. **Working to add instructional coaches.**
- Principal was asked to participate in a Sp.Ed. PLC with the network - next session is in January
- Principal participates in network professional development - BHT Professional Learning Community, Restorative Practices Leadership cohort
- Principal attends monthly network meetings.
- Principal meets with teams of teachers as needed/requested to respond to concerns/celebrations.
- Principal maintains an anonymous suggestion box on the school website.
- Principal works with teachers and parent group leaders to disseminate information - robo calls, emails, website, backpack mail and social media are current tools of communication around activities.
- Principal encourages staff to give each other “shout outs” in our weekly staff bulletin.
- Principal takes staff, parent and student confidentiality seriously - works to maintain a positive relationship with all stakeholders.

### **Budget Transfers**

None