

Principal's Report for Peirce Elementary

Principal Lori Zaimi

February 21, 2019

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 Updates

Restorative Practices

- January 24th Flex Day PD focused on Staff Mindset around Restorative Practices and Talking Circles related to mindset. The RP Team will meet on Feb 27th to review the data and begin planning for the April 24th Flex Day along with other work that should happen in between/ongoing.
- February 1st PD Day had a focus on Restorative Consequences, Punitive Consequences and Logical Consequences.

MTSS

- Adjustments to intervention groups have been made based on MOY Data for MAP, TRC and AIMS
- ACCESS Testing is finished for all English Language Learners
- February 1st PD Day had a session focused on AIMS Web - how to understand AIMS data and how to plan for interventions/progress monitoring. In addition, the Peirce GUST Team provided a PD session for teachers around active learning and ways to adjust instruction for all learners. There was also a session for teachers around the use of Language Descriptors when planning instruction for English Language Learners.

Instruction

- Leveled Libraries made their way into the building and have been organized for teachers to begin using.
- Committees met on February 7th - PBS, RTI, Wellness, Literacy, Math, MYP & Arts
- Grade Level meetings over the last month focused on check-in around MVMS focus areas, Guided Reading/Review of Data/Small Group Instruction, Summative

Assessment Analysis, Talking Circle Check Ins & PBS Common Area Expectations - feedback around hallway noise.

- Vertical Planning Day on Feb 21st will focus on the essential components of a K-5 math block and MYP Teachers will review IB Units/provide feedback.
- Attendance is currently at 95.9% (decrease of .34%), last year at this time we were at 96.04%. Daily attendance calls are being made, attendance contracts continue to be developed with students below 91%.
- **The ISBE allocated 79K** in additional funds to support students with special needs - this is due to Peirce being rated as “low performing” on the PARCC Test. We anticipate funds being loaded on Feb 22nd - teachers provided input on how funds would be allocated - we will provide after school PD sessions for teachers on inclusive practices, co-teachers will have opportunities to meet after school, transition meetings will be scheduled for teachers to share IEPs with next years teachers, Paula Kluth will provide a full day PD session for teachers on August 27th.
- **10th Day Budget Adjustments** - Ms. Zaimi met with the PPLC on Feb 19th regarding the current teacher vacancy - teachers had been surveyed for feedback on how to move forward, 24 responses from teachers were received, 10 indicated their first preference being to hire 2 teacher assistants and 9 indicated their first preference being to continue looking for a teacher to fill the vacancy, the remaining 5 indicated an interest of purchasing technology or paying teachers to meet with co-teachers (this will be covered via ISBE funds). The PPLC agreed that we should be flexible with hiring right now, begin interviewing for Teacher Assistants and continue interviewing for a teacher - then make a recommendation on hiring based on quality candidates.
- A more detailed organizational chart (see attachment) was shared with teachers.
- Due to the (2) days of school that were cancelled, CPS will add (2) additional days to the end of the school year, the last day of school will be moved to June 20th.
- There continue to be issues with having a consistent custodial cleaning crew at Peirce - staff who were hired later quit and we continue to have subs in the building and have had several days of issues with cleanliness. Feedback has been provided to aramark and an additional meeting was had with their leadership team.
- Ms. Zaimi has begun conversations with Facilities and Aramark to have grass planted in the spring - we currently have several fields of mud/exposed ground on Bryn Mawr and Gregory.

- During the State of the School Presentation, Ms. Zaimi mentioned potential changes to the districts rating policy - if approved by CPS' board of education, the SQRP for next school year would be adjusted so that all components remain the same with the exception of Attendance. Currently attendance makes up 20% of the school's rating, with the anticipated changes, attendance would make up 10% of the school's rating and on-track data would make up the remaining 10% - On track is measured by student attendance and grades.

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

- A group of students from Boone visited our 5th graders to share their stories on immigration.
- See CIWP updates regarding professional development for staff on supports for students with special needs and English Language Learners.
- Ms. Lebovitz and Mr. Lerner continue to support teachers with instructional.
- Mr. Girard & Ms. Gerhardt co-taught an 8th grade math research lesson, inviting in teachers to observe and discuss student learning.
- A team of 4 teachers have applied for a travel grant which would grant them the funds to travel to Japan this summer, learning more about Lesson Study and teaching through problem solving.
- 49% of REACH Teacher Observations are currently completed. (+14% over the last month)
- Interviews continue for the 2nd vacant teaching position as a result of 10th day adjustments. See above regarding recommended changes.
- Timetrack Update - over the past month
 - Ms. Zaimi - 74% Instructional, 18% Management, 7% Unscheduled, 0% Personal
 - Dr Riemer - 71% Instructional, 6% Management, 17% Unscheduled, 6% Personal

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.

- Students shared their learning on Black History at our 2nd annual African American Heritage Showcase on February 13th - several parents shared what a positive impact this had on them and their children.
- Ms. Choe along with members of the PBS committee have begun meeting with students to create our 2nd annual student survey - students will disseminate the survey before Spring Break and share back their findings to teachers in grade levels, to the LSC and other parent groups.
- The first group of 6th graders traveled to the Indiana Dunes on Feb 14th-15th, the second group will travel on March 5th-6th.
- Over the last month there have been the following SCC Violations:
 - 1 (2-4)
 - 3 (2-7)
 - 1 (4-6)
 - 1 (5-14)
- Ms. Lebovitz organized Kindness Week - students participated in activities that focused on kindness in addition to a spirit week and door decorating contest.
- Elliott Topp will advance to the citywide Spelling Bee - being one of 50 students who passed the online Spelling Bee.
- Kindergarten students celebrated the 100th day of school!
- Report Cards Went home on February 11th
- Ms. Gerhardt received a grant from the Holocaust Museum to bring 8 7th/8th graders to a Student Leadership Day at the Illinois Holocaust Museum.
- The 5th/6th Boys Basketball Team won the regional basketball league - the 7th/8th grade team finished in 1st place but did not advance in the "Final Four" to the championship game.
- 8th graders took graduation pictures on Jan 22nd, Make Ups will be on Feb 26th.
- Student of the Month continues!

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. Zaimi met with Michael McGuire, Peirce Parent and owner of 88 Brand Partners to discuss a plan for examining current marketing tools (logo, tag line, letterhead, etc) Michael and his team will work with Peirce to create a recommended toolkit which streamlines our marketing/communication tools.
- Mr. Jackson & Ms. Choe held an informational session for parents on Restorative Practices.
- The PSO hosted our annual Valentine's Day Dance on Feb 8th.
- The MYP Assessment Parent meeting had to be re-scheduled to March 5th due to school being cancelled.
- The MYP Informational Meeting was re-scheduled to February 27th at 8:15am
- The PAC is looking for ways to create a parent resource room/news sharing bulletin board. The group continues to support workshops on Race & Culture, Restorative Practices, Math and Special Education.
- Ms. Lebovitz is coordinating PYP Behind the Scenes Tours for PK-5th grade families on Feb 22nd (4th-5th) and Feb 28th (PK-3rd)
- Paisley Peterson, 4th grade parent, has taken over our website maintenance.
- The parent basketball league continues!
- Monthly Parent Night - MYP Babysitting sponsored by FOP take place monthly
- 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.

- Ms. Zaimi met with Dr. Jackson around district support/use of Lesson Study.
- Ms. Zaimi shared her vision for Peirce School with teachers on February 1st (Professional Development Day)
- Ms. Zaimi created a detailed organizational chart - shared with staff and LSC
- Ms. Zaimi met with Megan Brand to discuss next steps in the Race & Equity principal evaluation process - parent focus groups will be the next step.
- Ms. Zaimi meets monthly with the Public Education Funds Educator Advisory Council.
- Ms. Zaimi attended a REACH re-certification course with CPS.
- Principal attends grade level meetings, works with PPLC and PPC
- 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