

Principal's Report for Peirce Elementary

Principal Lori Zaimi

March 16, 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.

- Peirce received \$53,000 returned to the budget of the \$103,000 that was cut. That money went back into a furniture line and technology line. Transfers can be made when needed. Currently working on purchasing new tables for some 5th-8th grade classrooms.
- Principal met with the PPLC around next steps in planning for next school year - budgeting and scheduling. Principal would like input from PPLC around various scheduling models.
- The CTU has requested CTU members follow the "Rule to work" protocol - staff members not working if not compensated for their time. This includes before/after school committee work and meetings with parents.
- Principal sent out the Teacher Preference Sheet for next school year - this information is used to help create the school organizational chart.
- Attendance is currently at 95.76%
- The Chicago Police Department completed an unannounced Lockdown Drill and there were no major issues during this drill. The CPD was impressed with the swift acting of teachers and staff.
- Peirce received quite a bit of media attention around the possibility of a student having the Mumps. This case has not yet been confirmed by the Department of Health. However, the school took appropriate precautions by notifying families and sanitizing the classroom, bathrooms and common areas.
- Progress Reports went home on March 10th.
- Student-Led Conferences will take place again on our next Parent-Teacher-Student Conference Day.
- PARCC Testing began this week - students in 3rd-8th grade took the test. There were some students who decided to "opt out" by refusing to take the test upon

being presented to them. These students were given an alternate assignment in the classroom.

- Principal is placing a weekly grades monitoring report in teachers mailboxes for staff to use with students in setting goals around grades and attendance.
- Teacher met with MYP teachers around supports for student behavior - all teachers need to make sure they are implementing students behavior plans per their IEP.
- PYP Behind the Scenes Tours have started - Pre-K, Kindergarten, 2nd, 4th grades are completed. Upcoming dates are below:
 - 1st Grade - March 20th from 8:00 - 9:30am
 - 3rd Grade - March 22nd from 1:30 - 3:00pm
 - 5th Grade - March 22nd from 1:30 - 3:00pm

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

- Interviews for the vacated Assistant Principal position are underway.
- Melissa Amaro is joining the Peirce Team to fill in for Ms. Choe while Ms. Choe is on leave for the next year.
- There are 0 applicants for the Sp.Ed. temporary position while Ms. Harris goes on leave - if a replacement cannot be filled, we will need to sub the vacant position for the remainder of the year.
- We will have a 2nd round of Bilingual/EL audits between now and the end of the year to monitor progress from our action plan. Results of that audit will be shared once completed.
- The 3rd grade team completed a very successful round of Lesson Study with a focus on the teaching and learning of fractions! Dr. Terzian and Ms. Schaefer both publicly hosted lessons.
- The 1st grade team and 5th grade team are beginning their planning for their research lessons to be hosted later this spring.
- PK-5th Grade Teachers participated in an Inquiry PD hosted by Golden Apple - as we move further into our work with IB we must increase the types of inquiry opportunities students have access to. We are also trying to get teams of teachers to attend the Golden Apple STEM Summer Institute which focuses on Inquiry in the classroom.

- **Our PYP Authorization Visit will be May 25th-26th, this visit will be one of the final steps in our being authorized in the PYP. Groups of parents and students will be asked to meet with the authorization team.**

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.

- We are working with the Alderman's Office, Hopleaf and CPS Arts Essentials Grants to fund the mosaic installation which will happen in/around the Garden on Gregory. We would like to complete 1 larger art project each year - looking to do a mural on the wall in the playground, more mosaics on the Peirce side of the school building and possibly painting the roof of the fieldhouse.
- Asian Human Services is partnering with Peirce for the 2017-2018 school year to support the use of Restorative Practices with students and staff.
- Peirce received \$500 from the Kiwanis Foundation.
- Loyola University now has a community health outreach area where we can make referrals for counseling and evaluations among other things.
- Kindergarten Students showcased their work with the Music Institute with a short showcase for parents
- 6th-8th grade students with straight A's were recognized during the Principal Luncheon.
- 2nd Grade students hosted their Wax Museum - dressing up as a historical figure and sharing their story.
- The 1st grade Sea Turtle collection, led by Ms. Sweeney's classroom was great with just under \$400 raised!
- \$500 was raised by the Babes with Blades Theater Fundraising, supporting our 7th/8th grade trip. Thank you to Sara McGuire for spearheading this. Several Peirce students attended with their families.
- 8th Grade students finalized their work with Writer's Theatre, sharing their work with each of the 8th grade classrooms

- Student Council & Life Service Action Groups attended the annual “We Day” Field Trip which celebrates service.
- 6th Grade students attended a 1 night overnight trip at the Indiana Dunes.
- Elliott Topp finished 13th out of 50 students in the Citywide Spelling Bee!
Congratulations to Elliott!
- All 6th-8th Grade students have taken the My Voice My School survey.
- We had 4 SCC violations between 2/16 and 3/10
 - (3) Level 2 Violations
 - (1) Level 5 Violations

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.

- Kathy Herwig has been instrumental in maintaining our website and creating our new one - soon to be released any day! More information to come.
- A huge thank you to our parents who continue to paint our hallways - what a difference!
- Thank you Rebecca Hendrickson who hosted our first Math Parent Workshop on Addition/Subtraction Strategies. There will be another workshop in April.
- Fiesta de Arte planning is underway with a “Worlds Fair” Theme.
- Student Council hosted a Parent-Teacher-Student Volleyball game to support the 7th/8th grade trip to Washington D.C. - congratulations to our Parents for dominating all games!
- The next Peirce Day at Giordano’s Pizza will be on February 23rd,
- 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.

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 Attended the first IB Principals meeting hosted by the IB CPS Department. There will be ongoing meetings with IB Principals to support administrators in the implementation of IB Programs.
- Principal and both IB Coordinators attended the IIBS Networking Session.
- Principal wrote a blog posting for the Public Education Fund [Leveraging Peers and Data to Improve a School](#).
- Last month's small group Principal Meeting for Network 2 was held at Peirce -we focused on the teaching and learning of math and ST Math.
- 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