

Principal's Report for Peirce Elementary

Principal Lori Zaimi

November 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.
- The work on the fire panel began on November 6th and is close to being completed.
 - We are at the beginning stages of developing the 2018-2020 CIWP, the School Excellence Framework is to be completed before December 15th, this is the first step for school staff to examine SQRP data for the last 3 years and identify areas of strength/opportunities for growth. Parent and student surveys will also be administered along with hosting Parent/Community Focus Groups.
 - Grade level teams have continued work around Balanced Assessment & Grading (CIWP Priority). Teams analyzed data during the November 3rd PD Day.
 - November 3rd PD Day supported CIWP priority areas - Balanced Assessment & Grading, Restorative Approaches to Discipline.
 - Mr. Trad, Dr. Terzian, Ms. Amaro and Ms. Zaimi met with our school's RP Coach and met to create our action plan/professional development plan for the rest of the year. Focus will be to create a 1 page document which outlines Peirce's use of RP, defining common restorative practices and when they should be used, providing PD for teachers on talking circles and support for recess and lunch staff. (CIWP Priority)
 - The next committee meeting date is November 28th - an update on committees will be provided at the December LSC meeting.
 - Weekly recess survey for feedback has been administered, since the last LSC meeting, there were 5 responses to the survey, which indicated the following:
 - 5 issues returned to the classroom, after requesting clarification, 4 of them had actually been resolved in the lunchroom before returning to class.
 - **Strengths:** there is supervised indoor recess, students initiate indoor class game time games during indoor recess, recess coach held a restorative conversation when a physical issue had taken place, 2 named coaches are very supportive of students,

recess coach tries to resolve issues before leaving from lunch, and will follow up if students had not alerted to the issue.

- **Challenges:** During lunch and recess students in my class and other classes have been making fun of a boy in my classroom, but this was addressed to the students and their parents, do not think it will happen again. Some kids tell coaches about issues and some do not.
- Attendance is currently at 96.99%,

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

- The MYP evaluation site-visit took place from November 8th-10th, 2 days at Senn and 1 day at Peirce. This visit occurs every 5 years as a follow up from IB. A formal write up of the visit with formal feedback should be available in January. During the exit discussion, the following was noted:
 - The community is committed to an IB Education
 - International Mindedness is promoted throughout the curriculum
 - Each school has collaborative planning opportunities but we need to work on an increase in collaboration across both schools
 - Importance is placed on mother tongue language supports
 - Really appreciated the Special Education programs and equal access for all students across the partnerships
 - Approaches to Learning are explicitly taught in all 10 subjects
 - Focus on the understanding and teaching of Key and Related Concepts
 - A lot of evidence of student ownership of learning
 - Student work aligned to MYP objectives
 - And much more!
- IB Inquiry Walks continue - we are hosting 1-2 a month, recent walks focused on math instruction.
- Mr. Richie & Ms. Zawayta taught a 5th grade research lesson.
- Ms. Schaper's last day at Peirce will be on Tuesday, November 21st, Ms. Muschong will be taking over the 3rd grade class beginning on Monday, November 27th. Ms. Muschong will work alongside of Ms. Schaper on November 20th and 21st.
- Ms. Zaander will return to the first grade classroom on Monday, November 27th.

- Student-Led Conferences took place on report card day and this year extended through 8th grade.
- 4th grade teachers had an extended planning session to support collaboration on IB unit development.
- A group of Japanese educators from the Japanese School in Arlington Heights took a tour of Peirce School on November 13th.
- 2 teachers will attend a research lesson at the Japanese School in Arlington Heights on November 17th.

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.

- HS Application process continues now through December 22nd.
- Ms. Zaimi met with student council for a focus group on November 16th.
- Ms. Zaimi, Ms. Melman and Ms. Feeney, as part of the PBS committee, will be working with a group of students to create a student survey which will provide input into the CIWP alongside of data in determining next steps to support students.
- We held our second Student of the Month Ceremony on November 8th, students received a SOM t-shirt.
- Ms. Andrade, Ms. Keiner and Eric Lanert continue working with students on the implementation of our Makers Program.
- 7th and 8th grade students have begun applying for scholarships to attend the Washington D.C. trip, fundraising efforts have also begun and will end mid-February.
- Students participated in learning celebrations as a way to recognize achievements over the first quarter.
- All students participated in our Halloween parade and flash mob which was coordinated by Ms. Moritz & Ms. Migas.
- Jr. PSO is sponsoring a canned food drive and Student Council is sponsoring a clothing drive.
- Scholastic Book Fair ends on Friday, November 17th

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.

- Recent federal guidelines indicate that we need to get parents permission to opt in to non-emergency robo calls. A letter will be going home to parents for them to indicate if they would like to opt in to these messages.
- Ms. Zaimi met with committee chairs to continue collaboration between parent led organizations.
- A group of parents is working on a “beautification” plan to support grounds clean up, bricolage for the playground, ways to continue to make the playground/turf area more functional.
- Thank you to the PSO and several parents who contributed to a staff appreciation lunch which took place during report card day.
- The PAC and BAC hosted a math workshop for parents of students in K-5th grades, led by Mr. Lerner with a focus on teaching through problem solving, an overview of the Japanese curriculum and common core standards taught at each grade level.
- Ms. Zaimi hosted a coffee with the principal, approximately 35 parents attended.
- FOP sponsored a Dad’s Night Out in November.
- Dr. Riemer hosted a promotional policy meeting for 3rd, 6th and 8th grade parents.
- 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 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.
- Principal was asked to participate in a Sp.Ed. PLC with the network.
- 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

See last monts document