

Principal's Report for Peirce Elementary

Principal Lori Zaimi

September 22, 2016

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.

- Our opening week PD agenda focused on each of the 4 CIWP priority areas - see PD agenda for a breakdown of PD sessions.
- As part of our CIWP a school-wide Grading Scale was developed with the input of staff. See attached document for breakdown by grade cycle for categories.

The 2016-2017 grading scale is as follows:

A = 90%-100% B = 80%-89% C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69% F = 59% & Below

Students should also not receive a zero. The minimum percentage per assignment is 50% which is still an F. All grades A-D have a 10% range and so the F range should also remain consistent. This also allows the student an opportunity to improve their percentage.

- Per the CIWP, the homework policy has been reviewed at each grade level. Kinder and 2nd grade have eliminated formal homework and are encouraging students to read and play games at home. 1st grade is doing the same but adding in a phonics homework assignment nightly. 3rd-8th grade teachers will continue to review and assign homework as it is aligned to their IB unit, homework remains a topic of discussion in making sure that it is meaningful for students.
- MTSS is one of our priority areas, we were able to allocate additional supports to all grade levels with current staff through creative scheduling. K-2 will work with retired teachers and lunch/recess monitors for small group reading, 3rd grade has a middle school teacher working with 2 classrooms every other day along with reduced class size. 4th and 5th grade have a middle school teacher supporting RTI small groups and 6th-8th grade uses the Learning Communities model.
- EOY Attendance was 96.31% - we met our goal! Previous year was 96.1%
- See MAP breakdown by quartile ranges regarding RTI needs school-wide.

- 5 students were retained in 6th grade after not completing Summer School successfully. A plan is in place to support those students.
- See Diverse Learner Student Data by grade level.
- MVMS Data showed that the school was organized, goal is to be at well-organized. Lower areas were effective leaders and collaborative teachers - there was some improvement in these areas, but not enough to move up a level. Higher areas were on ambitious instruction, supportive environment and involved families. MVMS was discussed during opening week PD with a focus on relational trust.
- The Behavioral Health Team meets weekly to discuss student needs - referrals are made to the team for student support and the team then develops a plan for each student. We are working with C4, Asian Human Services, in-school counseling, in-school social work, small group counseling/support, check-in check out and staff mentors.
- We are waiting on our final SQRP rating - preliminary data is showing growth in all areas from last year. Once data is released it will be shared with staff and parents.
- To date there has been 1 Dress Code violation - this was addressed with the student and their families.
- Enrollment was at 928 students as of the 10th day, we were projected to be at 934 by the 10th and 20th days - 10th day adjustments are for SBB (115) and 20th day adjustments are for SGSA (225). We will know how much money is pulled on September 23rd.
- Emergency Plan Update - Attached is the formal Emergency Plan which is developed using CPS's tool. Below are a few of the school-wide emergency plan guidelines:
 - All doors remained locked during the school day and are to be opened by CPS/Right at School/YMCA staff as needed.
 - All visitors are to sign in at the main office, state their purpose, receive a visitor's pass and go to the appropriate location in the building.
 - Security staff monitors door 1 and completes several building and grounds walks a day.
 - Students enter through various doors as assigned throughout the building, however all adults and guests are asked to enter through door #1.
 - Peirce students and staff will participate in 1 bus evacuation drill, a minimum of 3 fire drills, 1 shelter in place drill and 1 lockdown drill a year.
 - In the event of a school-wide emergency, each teacher has an emergency binder with student rosters/parent contact information and sign out sheets. There is a protocol that the school will use for each emergency, this

varies based on the type of need but may include parent robo calls, emails and evacuation to other sites in the neighborhood.

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 PYP application for authorization will be submitted at the beginning of October, we anticipate a site visit in the Spring - the visiting team will meet with teachers, students and parents to learn more about implementation at Peirce and determine if we will be authorized in the PYP. The MYP team begins the self-study process this year and will submit all documents in the spring.
- Curriculum Night took on a new format which encouraged students to attend with families and for students to explain their classroom to their parents. Families were encouraged to visit the specials classrooms as a key component to their child's day at school.
- 1st-3rd grades have adopted the Sansu Math curriculum, a translated version of the Japanese curriculum. The team meets with Ms. Zaimi weekly to plan, Ms. Zaimi will observe math instruction and provide feedback around implementation.
- The International Day of Peace was on September 21st - students were encouraged to write their wish for Peace, they then made kites and flew kites on the turf.
- As noted during summer mailings, there were significant changes made to our organizational chart. See 2016-2017 organizational chart.
- Specials Classes: Students in K-5 will receive 4 quarters of Spanish, 4 quarters of Dance, 4 quarters of PE, 3 quarters of music, 3 quarters of Art and 2 quarters of Technology. Classes are 60 minutes in length this year compared to 50 minutes in years past.
- Library is no longer a specials class, teachers are using the library as a resource classroom to bring students to for research. Ms. Ferrand has created a schedule to get teachers and students in for book circulation.

- EL Progress - we have made progress in our Bilingual/EL program - 1 additional Bilingual Spanish teacher was hired, 1 teacher already on staff earned their Bilingual & ESL endorsement, 3 additional ESL endorsed teachers were hired. We have formed a Bilingual/ESL committee to support teachers use of the WIDA standards in lesson planning and supporting ELs.
- Mr. Trad and Ms. Kolontouros are hosting a bi-weekly Co-Teaching PLC to support teachers understanding and work within our Special Education Program.
- Both IB Coordinators will continue to support instruction through coaching cycles.
- REACH teacher observations will begin on October 3rd.
- 7 staff members were hired over the summer, 1 ESL Kindergarten, 1 Bilingual Spanish 1st grade, 1 ESL 3rd grade, 1 MYP Coordinator, 3 Sp.Ed. Co-Teachers. There were some instances where hiring committees were used to make recommendations on new staff members.
- Several staff have received CFE and Donors Choose Grants - these are great resources to fill the gap during a tight budget.
- We received \$19,000 from the McDougal Foundation to support our work with Lesson Study.
- We have 2 Student Teachers at Peirce with more joining our team over the course of the year. We also continue our partnership with Loyola, 1 class of Loyola students meets at Peirce weekly and then their students support classroom instruction.
- Ms. Zaimi is participating in a Data PLC, sponsored by the Public Education Fund to support work with data based decision making.
- Ms. Zaimi attended the Principal Institutes over the summer - 3 days of work with MTSS, 1 day with the Legal Conference and 1 day with our Network.
- CPS is revamping the work with MTSS - formerly known as RTI - RTI is now a part of MTSS. MTSS is how we look at our whole school using data based decision making. There is a MTSS logging tool that will be used for staff to keep track of interventions used with students.
- We continue our partnership with Senn HS - monthly admin meetings to direct cross-school professional development along with other opportunities. Senn is looking to host an after school band program to support 7th and 8th grade students.

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.

- Our Fall Sports season is underway, Peirce students in 5th-8th grade will be able to participate in Flag Football, Cross Country, Volleyball and Boys Soccer
- Thanks to Brooke Thompson for writing and receiving our Out of School Time Grant to support our ASAS programs. Peirce received \$35,484.
- We are on our way to having our first Band at Peirce! Over 120 students expressed interest, waiting on final numbers who actually signed up.
- With support from Friends of Peirce the PBS team now has a school Mascot - students are currently voting on the mascots name.
- Ms. Choe has been working with teachers to increase the number of Positive Messages/Core Values Posters around the school. We also have student photos with the IB Learner Profile hung around the building.
- Mr. Nanavati is supporting Right at School to ensure smooth transitions with lunch and recess.
- Gear Up continues at Peirce, supporting 8th grade students this year. 8th grade students will participate in a monthly college readiness workshop, a college tour and we will have on-site tutors during the school day.
- We had 3 SCC violations from September 6th to September 20th:
 - (3) Level 1 Violations -
 - (1) Restorative Conversations + Phone call to Parents
 - (1) Restorative Conversations + Phone call to Parents
 - (1) Restorative Conversations + Parent Conference

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.

- Curriculum Night/IB Informational took on a different format to increase student ownership of their classroom.

- A Diverse Learner Parent meeting was held on September 21st to support parents understanding of our Special Education program.
- The PSO sponsored our Back to School Picnic along with our open-house for parents to meet their child's teacher before the first day of school.
- The PAC principals meeting and organizational meeting will be held on Friday, September 23rd.
- The BAC organizational meeting will be held on Friday, September 23rd.
- The PSO met on Friday, September 16th - focused on finance update, open house, volunteer opportunities, etc.
- FOP met on September 13th - approved several line items including arts partners, library support, after school programs, garden, etc.
- Parents who support the garden held a Garden Farm Stand after school the week of September 12th.
- Parents hosted incoming Kinder Play Dates over the summer to support families transition to Peirce.
- Principal sent home a Summer Mailing/SMORE Newsletter regarding opening week needs - we are moving electronically this year with minimal paper sent home, next year no summer mailing as parents will be encouraged to sign up for parent portal and find out their child's classroom through parent portal.
- Principal will host the first coffee with the principal for the school year on September 30th at 8:15am.
- Website is undergoing revisions - hoping to launch within the next month or so.
- Principal attended the Alderman's Breakfast for local principals - discussed school-needs and community gathering opportunities - arts programs, Edgewater 5K, etc.
- The Edgewater 5K will take place on Sunday, September 25th at 8am, meeting at Rosemont and Kenmore.
- 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 meets with teams of teachers as needed/requested to respond to concerns/celebrations.
- Principal and Assistant Principal attend monthly network meetings.
- Principal maintains an anonymous suggestion box on the school website.
- Principal works with Assistant Principal, 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:
 Tech Approval \$15,000

From	To	Amount	Reason
115-51300-290001-000575	115-54125-222209-000575	\$10,000	Tech Support
332 .51100.111050.430 185	332.51300.290001. 430185	\$26,336.08	To clear negative in 332 funds, will close .5 position in 332 and re-open in 115