

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

AMHERST SCHOOL DISTRICT CLARK-WILKINS ELEMENTARY

August 13, 2018

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Elementary School Excellence

School Goals

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment: *Develop and implement high quality curriculum, assessment and instructional practices to support personalized student learning.*

- PACE – New administrators and teachers participated in a Deeper Learning Conference in mid-July. During this two-day conference participants had the opportunity to develop performance tasks and rubrics, develop an understanding of PACE as an accountability system, and dive into understanding Work Study Practices and their place and role in a competency-based approach to instruction and learning.
- Science Curriculum Work – Teachers across all grade levels will be working in mid-August to continue to develop our Science Curriculum. The work that is completed will be shared with our with grade level colleagues during the In-Service Day on August 29th.
- Collaborative Team Time – Grade Level and Department Team Time will continue this year. With the addition of new classrooms at three grade levels and removing Guidance from the specials rotation at Wilkins has necessitated a change in how we schedule these meetings. We had great success with a monthly, half-day meeting model in kindergarten and fourth grade during the 17-18 school year, and will, therefore, continue that model across all grades. These meetings focus on curriculum, instruction, and assessment. We will be working extensively with EMPOWER, assessments and assessment maps, and reviewing student work during these sessions.
Student Service staff will be meeting on a weekly basis with key administrators. Team time will be the vehicle to provide timely support and professional development in a range of areas, such as staying abreast of legal changes, efficient and effective practices, and collaboration.

Social and Emotional Learning: *Establish a community, classroom, and school-wide, that fosters and ensures the social emotional development and growth of all students.*

- Responsive Classroom Training is scheduled for the week of August 13th. More than 22 CW staff will engage in the training. During the four-day workshop, the staff will have the opportunity to work under the guidance of the Responsive Classroom trainer to develop implementation plans for implementing effective and engaging morning meetings, developing school-wide rules, and set goals for the year ahead.
- Second Step curriculum kits have been ordered for grade level teams. The additional resources will allow our classroom teachers to effectively implement the curriculum within their classroom as opposed to during special subject instruction. Additional materials targeting Bullying Prevention (awareness, understanding, and developing strategies to prevent bullying) have been added to our program. This

instruction will be delivered primarily by the guidance team in grades 1-4. However, classroom teachers will also be present and participate in instruction to improve carryover and deeper learning.

Healthy & Safe Learning Environment: *Ensure that students & staff are healthy, safe, & supported emotionally, physically, & socially.*

- Wellness Coordinators – Lorraine Stockwell, Nancy Panasiti, and Barbara Cady will continue in their roles as Wellness Coordinators at CW. Working with the SAU Human Resources Department and available Health Trust Programs, this team provides our staff with access to resources, activities, and information that can enrich a well-balanced lifestyle.
- Committees and Teams – A number of committees and teams will be forming/reforming at the beginning of the 18-19 school year. These groups will lead work and activities related to building a healthy, safe, and supportive school culture and climate at CW. The committees include but are not limited to, building specific ICS (Incident Command) Teams, a Responsive School Team – building upon current and establishing new school-wide practices, expectations, and procedures, and a Spirit and Support. Updates from these committees will be provided through the school to highlight the work that is being done.
- Parent Partnership is coming to CW. In the coming year, we will be working in conjunction with the administrative staff at AMS and Dr. Femia-Hou to offer programming and events focused on the theme of “Healthy Relationships.” The offerings will be geared to elementary aged students and their families and will complement the work that classroom teachers and guidance counselors are doing with their students in class through the Second Step Program.

Inspirational & Effective Teaching

- All new CW professional staff have been assigned a mentor for the upcoming year. The relationship and support that a mentor can provide newly hired staff is essential to their success and acclimation to our school, practices, procedures, and philosophies. Connections are already being formed, but the official first day of the Mentoring Program will take place on August 20.
- Summer Professional Development –
- Hiring – We have one remaining position to be filled at CW. All currently employed newly hired staff will attend the SAU39 New Hire Orientation on August 8th.
- Teacher Supervision and Evaluation - All C-W administrators will be working collaboratively to complete observations this year. We have set goals for completion for various points in the year. These goals will help to keep us on track and provide staff with meaningful and rich feedback throughout the school year.

In addition to conducting observations and providing feedback, the admin team will also be reviewing observation narratives to ensure that our practices, expectations, and reflections are consistent and appropriately documented.

Observations	Completed to Date
Informal (10-15 minutes in class)	206
Formal (pre-observation conference, 45-60 minute observation, post-observation conference)	36

Facilities, Finance, and Operations

- Mark Bradshaw and the custodial team at CW have done an incredible job of preparing both of our buildings this summer. With countless room changes, managing the challenges associated with the septic project, and working to prepare multiple classrooms for summer programming and all spaces for the coming school year, it is nothing short of exceptional work and deserves great thanks and appreciation.
- FY20 Budget Development – Curriculum coordinators began meeting with the administration in late June to develop and refine curriculum lines the first draft of the FY20 budget. Other budget work is ongoing, and SAU leaders and school administration will be meeting in small workgroups to review and develop other areas of our budget for FY20. The administration will also be reviewing enrollment trends to make staffing recommendations for the 2019/2020 school year.

Clark-Wilkins Enrollment Figures 2018-2019

Grade	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.
Pre-K	33										
K	131										
1	125										
2	141										
3	123										
4	137										
Total	690										

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| New Teacher Orientation | 8-Aug |
| New Student Orientation | 22-Aug |
| Mentor/Mentee Day | 20-Aug |
| Registration Day | 27-Aug |
| Staff Welcome Back | 28-Aug |
| Teacher In-Service Day | 29-Aug |