



School Board Report

Center Woods Elementary School
Submitted by: Jess Potter, Principal

Mission: CWES, in partnership with families, is dedicated to ensuring the social, emotional and academic growth of every student in a safe, respectful environment.

Vision: Our vision is to work collaboratively with the community to be a high performing school where all students achieve their maximum personal growth.

Curriculum and Instruction:

Offer a rigorous and relevant curriculum to all students

Teachers attended a one day Keys to Literacy Training in August. This district-wide training provided educators with tools to deepen students comprehension skills. Teachers were introduced to language for comprehension skills and strategies. They practiced strategies that will deepen students' meta-cognition.

Promote instructional practice for all students that are engaging, connect disciplines, and allow students to apply knowledge and develop higher order thinking skills.

One of the many Responsive Classroom approaches is to ensure learning is active, interactive, and appropriately challenging. When students are engaged they want to stay and learn. Responsive Classroom also expects that learning should be purposeful and connect to students interests and strengths. Classroom teachers who have attended Responsive Classroom workshops have learned how to build a positive class community and how to provide engaging academics. We reviewed the guiding Responsive Classroom principals at one of our PD days this summer and we plan to continue to send staff for upcoming trainings.

Assessment and Data:

Utilize a variety of assessment practices to measure students; understanding and skills for academic growth.

i-Ready training was a huge success. The teachers are excited about using i-Ready to assess students knowledge i-Ready is much more than just an assessment tool; i-Ready is different because it connects assessment directly to instruction. It provides teachers with data and tools to drive daily instruction. With i-Ready there is far more flexibility to take the assessment which means classroom teachers can take the test within a window of time that fits their teaching schedule.

Utilize multiple data sources to inform decision-making.

One of the i-Ready tools that we are excited about is that i-Ready shows teachers what groups of students are ready to learn a new skill. In the resource section, lesson plans are provided to support this new learning. We will still use common assessments, program assessments, and teacher observation when determining students mastery of skills but we are thrilled to have i-Ready replace NWEA.

Professional Development:

Provide opportunities to staff for continuous professional growth.

We continue to provide in-house and off site professional development. In August, we covered a lot of material, including:

Math talks

PLC; What does it mean to be a PLC?

Appropriate Planning and Pacing

Mission and Vision- Setting School Norms

Incident command/ Emergency management

Bullying laws and policies

Personnel:

Recruit and retain professional, innovative, and dynamic staff dedicated to success of all students.

We are excited to have two new teachers join our teaching staff. One of the new teachers is not new to CWES, she was a para here for two years. Our other first grade teacher has settled in nicely. Our Mentor program facilitated a welcome back lunch and has already had several meetings. Each new staff members receives a mentor to work closely with them for two years. We have also added a part time custodian to our staff, we are excited to have another set of hands around the school.

Culture and Climate:

Promote an atmosphere that promotes a forward-thinking, professional learning community to meet the needs of 21st century education.

One of our goals is to improve the culture and climate of the school. One of the ways we are approaching this is through setting school norms for how all adults must act in order to meet the mission and vision of the school and the core values of every staff member. In August we spent a great deal of time discussing this and the team leaders have met with their teams to identify communication goals for the school. We will be able to report more on this in later months.

We have implemented a staff blog for nuts and bolts items for those staff who prefer a blog to the weekly nuts and bolts emails. We want more staff to read the nuts and bolts because it contains weekly reminders, upcoming PD opportunities, and noteworthy information.

Facilities:

Provide and maintain facilities that support teaching and learning .

The summer crew did a great job getting our school ready for the year. Paint was updated, classrooms were cleaned, and the entire building was spruced up.

The wall project has started. The crew put up a fence around their work zone. The project manager has met with us to provide us with a scope of the entire job. The project manager has agreed to be interviewed by the students to give the school updates on the construction.

The stairway in the lower kindergarten/preschool hallway was rusting so the summer crew sanded it down and repainted it. The boilers were also serviced this past week because we lost hot water but Honeywell got them running.

Other:

The dismissal process has been a challenge but I am happy to report that it is a well oiled machine as of now. As long as the buses are on time and parents don't come early, we are able to dismiss the entire school and get them safely to the right place within minutes of dismissal. This would not be possible without the outstanding dismissal staff.

Upcoming Events:

9/14 Open House

9/29 2 pm All School Meeting

9/29 PTO Fundraisers Due

10/5 Early Release

10/6 No School NEA DAY