



Director Report **April 2016**

“Micro” Moment:

When the school year started, Natalie was interested in running for office. She decided to run for Vice President in October. She wrote her speech and gave it rather nervously in front of the student body. She didn't win that election, and while she was disappointed, she knew there would be other opportunities to be a part of Micro City's government at a later time.

Shortly thereafter, she decided to run for Senator of grades 3-5, and she won that election! She was beaming from ear to ear, and we complimented her perseverance for not shying away from running for another office after her initial defeat.

Fast forward to March, round two of presidential elections for this school year. Natalie decided to run for Vice President again. She prepared a very thorough speech with specific examples of how she wanted to help improve Micro City, and talked about how she would work "hand-in-hand" with the new President to help their citizens. It was a close race, but Natalie won! This is the perfect example of how, in our MicroSociety, we are creating a place where it is safe for students to take risks - to learn that sometimes in life we DO fail, but you have to rethink your strategy and try again!

Upcoming/Recent Happenings at MACS:

SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) is the NH state testing for students in 3rd-5th and is underway at MACS. Testing will take place the week of April 4th-8th. Testing results will not be released until the fall. We will anxiously await the results as we are confident our students will do well!

The second trimester report cards were released on Friday, April 1st. It is hard to believe we are on the home stretch and our last trimester.

Amy continues to work on the Title 1 grant application and is confident we will be awarded funding to run a Title 1 camp this summer for students who qualify. Based on criteria approved by the DOE, students who are working below grade level and are in need of some extra

instruction to help close the gap will be invited to a 3 week reading and math camp at MACS. Weeks of the camp will run M-Th fro August 8th- August 25th. We anticipate inviting around 20 students! This is a great opportunity for some of our students and we anxiously await approval for the DOE.

Summer Camps will be taking place at MACS this year! We will be offering 3 camp sessions each with 2 focus areas a week. Week 1: Stem/Yoga; Week 2- Micro/Musical Theater; Week 3 - Art/Science. Camps will be on a first come first serve basis and cost is \$150 per session. Hours of the camp are M-Th 9am-12 pm for grades 1-3 and 4-6. We are also excited to offer a Kindergarten camp as well- KinderCamp! We will run a 1 week session, M-Th from 1pm-3pm and the cost is \$100. A flyer with dates and more details will be coming home shortly!

The lottery is complete! We had an overwhelming 84 applicants for our 24 open seats for the 2016-17 school year. All lucky applicants have received their acceptance letters and all other families have been informed as to where they fall on the waitlist. More applications are still rolling in and they are being held in anticipation of a second lottery if need be (possibility in 5th grade). The second lottery will be dependant on DOE approval of increased enrollment numbers for next year. We hope to be able to contact some more families in a few weeks if we receive approval after the April Board of Education Meeting.

The proposed 2016-17 school year calendar is attached. We are proposing a 176 days for students. MACS has a very long school day (6 hours and 40 mins), therefore we meet instructional hours in less than 180 days. The proposed calendar will give us 1,044 hours of instruction and the DOE requirement for grades 1-6 is 945 hours in a school year. This year we will also meet instructional hours early and therefore propose the last day of school be on June 16th. We propose a half day, no lunch, from 9-12pm.

MicroSociety Update:

We had an extremely successful first Micro Night! The school was packed with families and friends visiting our Micro City agencies and ventures. We are happy to announce the evening raised just over \$800 for the school. Congratulations to all our staff and students on a job well done!

Sylvia Sanchez from MicroSociety Inc. has confirmed her visit from May 3-5th. Goals for her visit include more individual time with teachers so they can start to become more comfortable with tying in micro language during academic periods.

We just had a new election and change in businesses! Congratulations to Elle Kriebel- our new Micro City president and to Natalie Charlton our new VP! Some of the business that will be in operation include an origami shop, art and crafts store, keychain store, a lego and science museum, and a computer lab "gaming store." We can't wait to see the new ventures up and running!

Friends of MACS Update:

The Auction committee is still seeking donations for the First Annual MicroSociety Auction Night on May 20th at the Nashua Country Club. More importantly, the committee needs help with ticket sales. We estimating needing to sell 100 tickets to the event. Families and friends can purchahse tickets online at www.macsnh.org via paypal.

There will also be babysitting available at the school on the night of the event. A pizza and a movie so parents can attend! Details will be coming soon.

This is the Friends of MACS signature event of the year and we hope to see our parents out in full force! Bring friends and relatives and make it a fun evening out! Tickets prior to April 22nd are \$40/pp or \$75 a couple. After the April deadline prices go up- so act fast!

Building / School Budget Status

Amy is currently obtaining quotes on playground equipment and mulch. Friends of MACS has raised enough to start going forward with construction plans! We hope to see something in the next couple of months. Less if at all possible!

Plans for summer cleaning and waxing of the floors are also being discussed. Quotes are being obtained from cleaning companies as well.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Bottomley, Director