



Director Report

April 2018

“Relate. Connect. Understand”

“Micro” Moment:

While it is true that Micro supports our students with invaluable skills in the areas of leadership, financial literacy, and risk-taking, we also strive to make sure that students understand the value of the HEART strand. Through acts of kindness, giving, and community service, our students are learning that they can make a positive difference in their world.

The HEART goal of our student-owned science business venture this year was to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) through their "Pennies for Patients" campaign. The students' efforts helped MACS to raise more than double what our original goal had been, and in the process they helped some younger Micro City citizens learn the value of the HEART strand. A kindergarten student whose birthday happened to fall during the donation period decided to ask that family and friends coming to his birthday party make donations to Pennies for Patients in lieu of birthday gifts, and he raised \$65 as a result! Also, a first grader kept filling up his coin donation box at home each day until his piggy bank was nearly empty. When he was filling up the box again one morning, his father told him he had already donated enough of his money and to save the rest. The boy said, "But look at this guy!" while pointing to the picture of the young leukemia survivor on the donation box. "He survived because people donated money to the scientists who are doing experiments to find a cure. We should help them!" His father agreed and helped him fill the box with change once more.

Enrollment Numbers (as of 4/09//18):

K - 39	4th - 23
1st - 20	5th - 23
2nd- 21	6th- 23
3rd - 23	7th- 17
Total : 189	

Upcoming/Recent Happenings at MACS:

Amy and the hiring committee have been busy conducting interviews. We hope to have the process all wrapped up and positions filled by mid May. Administration will work on teaching assignments once the hiring process is complete.

Instructional Assistant, Erika Brown, has recently gone out on maternity leave. Congratulations to her family on their impending arrival! We are happy to announce that Brigitte MacMillian will be her long-term substitute. Brigitte is a retired NH art teacher who has been on our substitute roster for the last two years. We are excited that she could step in and assist during Erika's leave of absence.

Please join me in welcoming Jillian Hegarty as our new Program Coordinator starting July 1st. Jillian has worked in the education field, specifically in student services, since 2011. Jillian earned a BA from Bridgewater State University and her M.Ed. from Rivier University. She has worked as an interim guidance counselor at Lawrence Academy and for the past seven years she has been the 504 Coordinator at Hollis Brookline High School. She brings a wealth of experiences in the upper grades, a vast knowledge of special education and 504 regulations and a strong guidance background. These experiences and knowledge will be an asset to the MACS admissions process and with transitioning our upcoming 8th graders into their high school placements. Prior to her tenure in education, Jillian worked in Marketing for both Sun Microsystems and Hubspot. Her business background and work in the education field will be a nice addition to the administrative team. Jillian plans to do some shadow days with the administrative team over the coming months. Welcome, Jillian!

MACS students are once again showing HEART. This month there were two community service initiatives, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) through their "Pennies for Patients" campaign and the King Arthur Flour "Bake For Good" program. Students raised over \$1700 by saving their pennies for LLS! Students also personally baked loaves of bread to donate to the Nashua Soup Kitchen. Over 50 loaves were baked and donated! We are so proud of our students taking the initiative to make a difference!

MACS administration and Board Representatives were able to attend two events this month. MACS was an honored finalist for Non-Profit of the Year for the Chamber of Commerce Eminence Awards and recognized at a ceremony held at Sky Meadow Country Club on March 29th. The Enterprise Bank Applicant's Reception was held on April 4, 2018 at the Westford Regency, in Westford, MA. Finalists are to be announced on April 11th and will be honored at a banquet in May. Congrats to all the MACS stakeholders on these two well deserved recognitions!

We are excited to announce that we have signed a contract with Barlo Signs. Barlo Signs will be installing a new MACS street sign, complete with a letter board, on West Hollis Street. The sign

will help with visibility, marketing initiatives, and assist in communicating with families and the community regarding upcoming events at MACS.

Teacher contracts will be handed out the week of April 9-13th. The Board and HR committee have been working hard to improve health benefit plans for the staff and their families. The plan managed by HealthTrust will provide a new added benefit to the contract this year.

Once contracts and the hiring process is completed, Amy will be working with the facilities committee on securing bids for security upgrades. MACS has received 80% funding towards a \$35,000 project to upgrade security at MACS. The project is to include increased lighting outdoors, additional surveillance cameras both in and out, and remote access for first responders.

MicroSociety Update:

Micro Day is set for April 18th. Parents and interested stakeholders will be sent a signup genius link so they can reserve a time slot. Visitors will be able to exchange US currency for Micro Bucks and visit student run ventures and agencies! We hope to see everyone attend. The students are excited and already making special plans.

Student last day of school is June 12th. This will be a half day with no lunches being served. The staff's last day will be June 13th.

MACS PTO Update:

The MACS PTO held a Family Dance held at the Nashua PAL gymnasium for students and their families in K-3rd grade. Students in 4th-7th will be back on the MACS Campus for a "Spring Fling" dance chaperoned by the teachers. The dance raised over \$2,000! Most importantly, fun was had by all!

Next up will be the 2nd Annual MACS talent show on May 11th at the Boys and Girls Club in Milford at the Amato Center at 7pm. Ticket sale details will coming out shortly.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Bottomley, Director