



Director Report
February 2015

“Micro” Moment:

A Journal Reflection from a 5th grade business owner.

Prompt- How do you feel about your current job in MicroCity?

“I really enjoy my job. I enjoy it because it is fun being a boss “not a bossy boss.” Plus, I love making frames, prompts, and I love taking pictures. I also like ordering frames and pics at market place. One of my favorite things is seeing everyone’s happy face as they look at the amazing work my amazing team did. I am amazed that I got picked (to be a boss). It is fun being a boss, I get to do every job in my business.”

Upcoming at MACS:

Amy is in the midst of teacher observations and evaluations. My intent is to finish by March and make recommendations regarding renewal in early April. There are currently two parts to the evaluation process. First, is a formal written evaluation based on a classroom observation and the second is a teacher reflection and Program Coordinator review of the facilitator performance in regards to MicroSociety.

Administration continues to work with staff on developing Tier 2 Response to Intervention (RTI) programming. Thanks to the board and Fleet Feet Sports, MACS has been able to purchase 14 site licenses and 2 training sessions on Lexia, a reading intervention program. Students who we have identified as working one or more grade levels behind have been getting additional instruction to help close the gap. Now we will have a researched based intervention program that we hope will help us better track and accelerate the time it takes to close the gap. Thank you to all who donated! And a special thanks to Dr. John Dagianis who not only donated the training portion, but also donated the membership for MACS to join the Chamber of Commerce.

We are happy to announce that we have added two more after school club options besides band. We started an Art Club thanks to Amy Leblanc with assistance from our art teacher, Sonya Macmillan. Our first 4 week session had 30 participants! We will also be starting a Dance and Movement club. Mrs. Dagianis will be running 2 - week sessions for K-2 and 3-5 starting after vacation!

We would also like to give a big warm welcome to Danielle Skelley our new PE Teacher! Danielle is a fitness enthusiast who has been a coach and worked supporting classes in the Nashua School District in past years.

Lastly, I have recently met with Christine Breen, the Director for Special Education in Nashua, to discuss how to better service the identified population at MACS next year. We want to ensure every child is getting their needs met while being fiscally responsible. In the meanwhile, I met with the Nashua Superintendent and Transportation Director and established that the MACS School Day will run from 9:00-3:40 next year. Currently, classes are 9:15- 3:40. This will add 15 more instructional minutes to our day. Students will be allowed to enter the building at 8:50am for drop off. Next I will be working on proposing a school calendar for board approval.

MicroSociety Update:

On December 9, 10, and 11th, Sylvia Sanchez from MicroSociety Inc. joined us for our first follow up training since August. It was a wonderful opportunity for staff to reflect on how far we have come and where we want to be by the end of the year. Under her guidance, we decided to change how Kindergarten participates in Micro and to pull back on the Market Days. The team found that students needed more training in finances. So we held financial academies for managers and owners and facilitators did practice in managing paychecks and bank accounts with all students. We also decided to have K do their own venture, led by their teacher. They decided to run a "movie" business. They show short educational videos and sell popcorn. It has been very popular! They also get to participate in Market place days. After our slight adjustment to the schedule, we are happy to announce we are back on track and stronger than ever!

Friends of MACS Update:

The Friends of MACS group has been busy! In January, they held a Parents Night Out where kids could be dropped off for a pizza and movie. Over 50 students were in attendance! Thanks to Lauren Gardina who helped organize the event. This Friday will be a Family Valentine's Dance. There will be music, dancing, photo booth and a bake sale. But mark your calendar for the First Annual Auction Night event to be held on May 20th at the Nashua Country Club at 6pm. Thanks to Dr. John Dagianis for getting us a room rental! We are now accepting donations for the auction!

Building / School Budget Status

With permission from the finance committee and in the spirit of the new policy, I recently made purchases for the future 6th grade classroom which is currently used by art, music, guidance and health. We were able to outfit the entire room for about \$2800. The teachers can not wait for the furniture to arrive! This purchase will be paid for with Federal Grant monies.

Lastly, Heidi and I have been working with our new accountant to set MACS for the summer audit. We are learning a lot in this process! We are hopeful once we are done setting up Quickbooks align with DOE account numbers and have everything inputted properly, he will be prepared to do a board presentation. So stay tuned!

We are still waiting on finishing some items from build-out with JH Spain. Intercoms, double doors on MPR room and the roof is all that seems left to be resolved. However, the internet content filter system us up and running and we now have a computer lab! Exciting news for MACS. I think we can now say we are officially on the home stretch of this original building project!

We are also happy to announce we have been fielding a lot of phone calls and emails regarding admissions for the 2016/17 school year. Our first Info Night had a full house! Currently, our enrollment is up to 106 students and next year we are planning for full enrollment! Our lottery will be held on March 25th, so we will know soon enough!

Again, we are so thankful to the MACS community for all their support and efforts each and everyday!

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Bottomley, Director