



## Director Report August 2016

### **“Micro” Moment:**

*Last spring, 5th grader Eleanor (“Elle”) decided to run for president. During her campaign speeches, she repeatedly mentioned two things she wanted to accomplish for Micro City. The first was changing the law about having to walk on the right side of the hall at all times, and the second was planting a garden at MACS.*

*The first task was easily accomplished. Most of the students didn't like the law and didn't deem it necessary. The poor Kindergartners and 1st Graders kept getting ticketed for walking on the wrong side of the hall because they had a hard time remembering which is right and which is left, and hallway crashes didn't really seem to be a concern on Marketplace days anyway. At the first congressional session after Elle's inauguration, members of Congress voted to repeal the law.*

*The second task had been put to the side. Schools tend to get busy in the spring, and before we knew it, it was June! On the last week of school, Elle showed up at Mrs. Williams's office in a panic, “The school year is ending this week, and I haven't built a garden!! I made a promise in my campaign speech, and I have to fulfill it!” Mrs. Williams reminded Elle that her term lasts for two trimesters and she would be in office until early December, so there was still time. Elle was relieved! But she promised not to forget again.*

*During the summer, Elle and her mother came to the school to scope out potential areas for garden plots and take measurements. Before school started, she had built two beautiful raised beds by the back entrance -- with herbs, peppers, lettuce, edible flowers, and space for classes to plant their own things and have life science lessons.*

*Thank you, Madam President!*

### **Enrollment Numbers ( as of 9/20/16:**

K - 20	4th - 22
1st - 19	5th - 23
2nd- 21	6th- 23
3rd - 22	Total : 150

(We since have had a first grader drop which we intend to fill)

### **Upcoming/Recent Happenings at MACS:**

I am happy to report that on opening day we had 150 students out of 151 in attendance. This means we received FULL funding for the first state adequacy payment! The money came in on September 13th. With the addition of 10 kids to the original enrolment numbers- this brought in an additional \$19,000 in the first quarter. This is part of the Development Committees pledge to increase the budget by \$150K by June 2017. It is now reflected on the thermometer on the front door!

We have also received 4 donations totaling \$1600 in pledges towards the annual fund.

The opening of school was a huge success! We had four very productive staff workshop days leading into the first day of school. With the help of Sylvia Sanchez, Micro Trainer, administration and staff brainstormed measurable goals for the upcoming years. (see attached "PLAN").

Last years common focus was "**Voice and Choice.**" After much contemplation and reflection, this year the common focus is "**Relate. Connect. Understand.**" All school wide and professional goals developed will connect to the common focus and help strengthen the academic program at MACS.

Now that some preliminary SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) data has been released to administrators, staff was able to work with an understanding of our academic strengths and weakness. When the scores are released publically, all stakeholders at MACS will be very proud of our first year results! We now have confirmation of what we excel at and where we could still make gains. The "PLAN" and school focus addresses those specific areas and as a result we have developed curriculum teams to evaluate and brainstorm ways we can evolve and strengthen our program. The staff is excited to get to work and see our students grow!

### **MicroSociety Update:**

Currently, in Micro, students interested in running for representative, senator or treasurer submitted their intent to run forms and gave campaign speeches. Elections were Tuesday. All legislative branches of the government will be fully functioning soon! In the meantime, staff are conducting specific lessons around leadership, how to give a speech, what are Peace Officers and how the government is financed.

Staff met with our Micro trainer, Sylvia Sanchez, and worked on specific areas of development around ventures, agencies, and goal setting. Sylvia was available to answer staff questions and help us brainstorm ideas on improving community partnerships. Great things are on the horizon for Micro City!

### **Friends of MACS Update:**

Friends of MACS had their first meeting on September 14th. A calendar of events for each month of the year has been established and chairpersons have been selected. In September we

are selling coupon books to McDonalds or Subway for \$10/each (see Heidi in the main office to purchase one!). On the first early release on Sept 21st, the FOM's committee will be organizing an after school "Afternoon in the Park" at Kids Cove in Merrimack and October will bring the first ever MACS Fall Festival. The event will take place on October 15th from 10am-1pm. Come play games, meet new friends and support the school!

**Building Update:**

We have the repairs/replacement on part of the lower roof was done the weekend of September 17th/18th. Most all summer projects are completed. Still working on the painting of hallway trim and ceiling tile replacements. We also have some additional permanent artwork installed that dresses up the hallways.

Summer orders have not all arrived, specifically a cafeteria table, so we have had Kindergarten eating in their classroom until it comes. Staff were allotted \$150 each for classroom orders and those have all arrived.

Overall, staff felt much more organized and less rushed at the start of the school year. What a difference a year can make!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amy Bottomley, Director

## MicroSociety Academy Charter School

### **THE PLAN**

**MicroSOCIETY's Focus:** Student Achievement

**School's Common Focus for *MicroSociety*:** Relate. Connect. Understand.

**Goals and Strategies:**

Goal #1	As measured by	Collected & analyzed by whom?	Checked how often?
Decrease percentage of below proficient students in math by 40%	school wide assessments Aimsweb	staff/director	tri-annually
Tasks:	As measured by	Collected & analyzed by whom?	Checked how often?
Micro: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students will keep accurate banking/checking registers.</li> <li>● Financial Managers will keep accurate financial records for ventures and agencies.</li> <li>● 40% of the Micro City ventures will be STEM-related.</li> </ul>	venture list	Coordinator	Tri-annually
Academy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop math fact fluency practice and activities (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division - depending on grade level and time of year),</li> <li>● Students will increase scores on fact fluency assessment by 30% each trimester until students have reached proficiency</li> </ul>	math fact assessment data	classroom teachers, coordinator, director	tri-annually
Goal #2 a) and b)	As measured by	Collected & analyzed by whom?	Checked how often?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● a) MACS will secure and maintain at least three community partnerships</li> </ul>	monthly visitor logs	curriculum coordinator  curriculum coordinator	tri-annual basis

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) MACS ventures and agencies will have at least one visitor per year</li> </ul>	monthly visitor logs		tri-annual basis
<b>Tasks:</b>	<b>As measured by</b>	<b>Collected &amp; analyzed by whom?</b>	<b>Checked how often?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Venture/Agency facilitators will learn and implement the process of recruiting community partners</li> </ul>	Course sign-in sheet	Coordinator/facilitators	Monthly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Ventures/Agencies will secure and sustain long term partners</li> </ul>	Visitor logs	Coordinator Facilitator Student	Monthly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will compile a list of potential community partners twice per year</li> </ul>	rubric/list of potential partners	classroom teachers	bi-annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will write letters to at least one potential community partner</li> </ul>	checklist/rubric	classroom teachers	bi-annually
<b>Goal #3</b>	<b>As measured by</b>	<b>Collected &amp; analyzed by whom?</b>	<b>Checked how often?</b>
Students at MACS will increase their school community connectedness by 20%	student climate survey created by staff	staff	start and end of school year
<b>Tasks</b>	<b>As measured by</b>	<b>Collected &amp; analyzed by whom?</b>	<b>Checked how often?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a Micro University Citizenship class to help struggling students reconnect to society</li> </ul>	100% of participants complete the course	Counselor	monthly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance lessons and character trait lessons to increase connectedness by 10%</li> </ul>	climate survey	Counselor	monthly

## Amy's 2016-17 Professional Goal:

In my end of year reflection/evaluation, one area that needed improvement was staff involvement and opportunities for collaboration and connectedness. My goal hopes to address staff involvement and empowerment in school decision making through committee work, faculty meetings, collaborative workshops and an increased presence of staff at school events and with staff morale. Studies have shown discovered that staff morale can have a significant effect on the performance of a school organization. A staff that feel empowered, respected and have fun at work create a climate that students can thrive and grow in.

***“Relate. Connect. Understand.”***

Goal	As measured by	Collected & analyzed by whom?	Checked how often?
To increase staff involvement and connectedness at MACS by 20%	By # of staff participation in committees and school activities	Director and reviewed by board	end of school year

Tasks	As measured by	Collected & analyzed by whom?	Checked how often?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish math/science curriculum teams and report card committee teams to work on improving and strengthening curriculum and reporting</li> </ul>	50% of participants in various academic based committee work	Director and review by Board	end of year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a committee of staff members whose focus is on building staff morale.</li> </ul>	100% participation in staff morale building activities, outings, and school events through the year.	Director and review by Board	end of year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start a staff monthly award that recognizes staff who go above and beyond by admin and peers</li> </ul>	100% of staff recognized through award/certificate	Director and reviewed by Board	End of year