

Director Report September 2015

Opening Day:

We had a smooth opening! Little glitches with the buses, but all went much more smoothly on day two. Students and teachers spent time getting to know each other, covering some basic review of academics and during Micro Block we had our first Town Meeting where we did staff introductions, Mrs. Williams discussed what students would be doing in the upcoming weeks in Micro such as develop a social contract, write the school constitution, and electing a president. Mrs. Bottomley discussed the Citizenship Trait of the Month - Respect. Students who are caught displaying this trait will be recognized with a citizenship award which will be displayed on a board outside each classroom and they will be recognized at the next Town Meeting. Overall, we had a great opening to school!

Upcoming at MACS:

Next week staff will be starting out progress monitoring measures to assess where kids are academically. We have received all Developmental Reading Assessments and will start assessing students over the next two weeks. Once all student laptops are received, we will begin Aimsweb testing to measure students in math and language arts. These assessments will provide teachers with baseline measures on each individual student so we can identify struggling learners and ensure growth over the course of the year. We will test all students in the fall, winter and spring of each year. Parents will receive assessment results at parent / teacher conferences.

Amy and Kate Dagianis, MACS guidance counselor, have many scheduled IEP meetings in the next two weeks to work with home schools to ensure services and needs are met for our identified population.

MACS is excited to have a hot lunch offering provided by Only Catering in Nashua. Amy is in the process of trying to maneuver through the free and reduced lunch application process. She has a call into the NH DOE for support as it is not an easy endeavour. This may delay when MACS can offer this program. The program is contingent upon state approval.

Amy has her first Directors meeting at the DOE on September 22nd and the topic is state reporting. Amy has already been working on gathering data for the BOY reporting period in October. H

MicroSociety Update:

Students will be discussing their ideal society and begin lessons in different forms of government such as monarchy, dictatorship, and republic. Students will decide which form of government is most appropriate for our society. Delegates from each classroom will meet to form a social contract which will be signed by every citizen in our society.

During our Micro training, staff decided on a common focus for the school of Inspire Voice and Choice. Using that as their basis, staff set three Micro goals for the year. They were:

1- 15% of students will take advantage of opportunities provided to them to be risk takers, such as submitting business proposals, applying for managerial positions, and running for office as measured by the number of business proposals submitted, number of candidates running for office and the number of citizens that take business management 101.

2- 70% of students will respond favorably when surveyed about opportunity for shared decision making as measured by student opinion survey at beginning and end of year as evidenced by 100% of students voting in the general election and 100% of staff conducting classroom shared decision making opportunities.

3- Decreasing discipline referrals by 10% as measured quarterly by number of referrals through 100% of staff conducting citizenship academy and increasing the number of citizenship awards given.

Overall, all the hard work over the summer months has paid off and the first NH MicroSociety School is off to a great start!