



Director Report
April 2021
“Relate. Connect. Understand”

“Micro” Moment:

This year, MACS has pivoted to offer students a digital MicroSociety experience; however, nothing truly compares to the in-person marketplace. A group of remote students have decided to turn this setback into an ingenious opportunity- they have created their own remote miniature enterprise! Lexi and Henry (third grade) with the help of AJ and Lucas (kindergarten) have created a store selling origami, pictures, pencils, erasers, and much more. AJ and Lucas are tasked with soliciting customers while Lexi and Henry handle the finances. Their store is located at the Pearl Marketing office in Nashua where Amanda Schneck, mother of Lexi and Aj, owns Pearl Marketing and let’s the kids use the office to do remote learning. The kids are now working on designing their own “Pearl Bucks” as currency. They will be able to earn pearl bucks by being respectable citizens at the office. Way to go, Pearl Academy! - by Jewel Hurt



Enrollment Numbers (as of 4/8/21):

K - 20	3rd - 46	6th - 24
1st - 20	4th - 24	7th - 19
2nd - 39	5th - 24	8th - 19

Total: 235

Upcoming/Recent Happenings at MACS:

All staff evaluations have been completed and contract discussions will occur by the April 15th renewal deadline. The Board and HR committee have been working hard to continue to offer a competitive charter school contract to our staff. We will be switching our STD and Life to the NH Healthtrust so all our benefits are packaged with one company. This will be easier for the management at the school level, as well as more convenient for staff in regards to customer service and webaccess.

This school year continues to throw new curve balls at us. We have found a significant main sewer line issue which is in need of a replacement. Despite our best efforts, it has forced a school closure and a pivot back to online learning. In the midst of this, the Governor has announced school must go back to full time in-person learning while drastically changing the initial school guidance from the start of the school year. We have had to refocus our planning and scheduling, along with facilities configuration to accommodate this change. A huge thank you to our teachers for their flexibility, patience and perseverance. This year has been a challenging one for the profession and we do appreciate all that you have done to see that our students succeed.

Staff are in the midst of planning end of the year celebrations. There will be a graduation ceremony, end of the year awards ceremony and a field day this year. While they may look a little different, we want to ensure these school traditions continue.

We have received two resignations from staff not returning in the fall. We say farewell to our guidance counselor Fay Smith who will be moving back to her home state of Pennsylvania and to our middle school math teacher, Katie Sylvia who will be undergoing a career change as she pursues a degree in data analytics. We wish them both the best of luck in their new endeavors!

MACS held a Town Hall meeting to discuss attrition, academic performance and enrollment trends, specifically around the middle school program. Administration has made a recommendation that MACS moves to a K-5 program and phases out middle school. Parents had an opportunity to see a presentation on data trends around this topic, have questions answered and give input. The MACS Board of Trustees will discuss these findings and the recommendation at a future meeting.

MicroSociety Update:

Now that students will soon be back in the building 5 days a week, the staff are working on adjusting micro to a more hands-on approach that we all love so much! While there are still safety protocols in place, we are excited to see more production get underway, like some items made from the 3D printer. Stay tuned!

MACS PTO Update:

The next PTO Meeting is Thursday, April 22nd at 1:00 PM.

Back by popular demand, the PTO will be doing a Spring Calendar Raffle Fundraiser. Community members will be able to purchase a calendar entry for \$15. We will then draw a raffle prize winner every day from May 10 - June 10 . The student who sells the most calendar entries will win a Virtual Reality Headset!

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Bottomley
Director