



**Principal's Report – March 2024**  
**Submitted to DSA Board of Directors**  
**By: Principal Grier**

**Purpose:**

The Principal's Report is designed to provide the Board of Directors of DSA with a current snapshot of the state of the school. Monthly, at least one week in advance of board meetings, I will provide information related to Academic Performance, Operational Health, and progress towards charter contract goals of the school. Board Members are expected to read the report prior to the monthly board meeting and come prepared with any questions or items for discussion that can be addressed at the meeting. Note that information presented is a snapshot of that current month and is subject to change rapidly depending on the season of the school year (ex. enrollment numbers during the summer or academic data prior to the end of the quarter).

**Academic Updates:**

- Small group instruction is the focus for the remainder of the school year – flexible grouping on Wednesdays has begun and is going well. We are 2 weeks in.
- Team meetings that require student work analysis and data analysis are underway
- March 29 is the next staff PD Day
- Milestones Testing Dates for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grades:
  - April 30 – May 2 (Reading)
  - May 7 – 9 (Math/Science)
- Summer school retests will only be for grades 3 and 5, which are promotion grades
- Report Card Pickup is Monday, March 18 from 8am – 6pm. Retention conferences will happen during these meetings for clear retainees.

**Operational Updates:**

- **Enrollment Updates:**
  - First round of acceptance letters went out to all applicants that applied by the deadline of February 15 on Friday, March 8. The accept/decline date is March 22 at 5pm.
  - Currently, there are 70 applications obtained since February 15. These students will be placed on the waitlist until March 22.

Grade Level	Target	Current Intent to Re-enroll Count	Current Applications	Gap
K	80	0	111	+31
1 <sup>ST</sup>	75	68	31	+24
2 <sup>ND</sup>	75	46	24	-5
3 <sup>RD</sup>	75	70	31	+26
4 <sup>TH</sup>	75	58	22	+5
5 <sup>TH</sup>	75	38	25	-15
6 <sup>TH</sup>	80	35	38	-10
7 <sup>TH</sup>	80	34	15	-31
Totals	615	349	297	Short – 61 students across grades above

The numbers above reflect zero marketing efforts this year. The plan right now is to admit all of these students and then ramp up marketing efforts over March and April to fill the remaining seats and build a waitlist. During conference, I met with a branding person regarding marketing efforts for middle school. A follow up meeting will happen next week.

- **Current Staffing:**
  - 1 staff member currently out on unpaid leave indefinitely. This role will be filled with a temporary person starting Tuesday, March 19.
- **Resignations:**
  - No new resignations

- **Terminations:**
  - No new terminations
  
- **Hiring:**
  - Current Year Hiring Updates
    - Contract SpEd teacher hired and began on February 26.
    - 4<sup>th</sup> grade ELA/SS teacher hired for vacancy and began on Wednesday, March 6.
    - Long-term sub – Yolanda Lumpkin – hired for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade maternity leave.
  
  - Fall 2024 Hiring
    - All jobs are posted to build a quality candidate pool.
    - Jobs are posted on Indeed and the school website is being updated.
    - Interview days are being held every Wednesday from now until we are fully staffed. The times are 9am – 1230pm. If you are interested in sitting on an interview panel, please let me know asap.
    - New positions for admin have been posted and interviews will be completed this month for both internal and external candidates.
    - Goal is to be fully hired by May 24 – summer hiring is almost never a good idea in terms of the quality of persons remaining at that time of year.
  
- **Facilities:**
  - No new updates
  
- **Fundraising:**
  - Upcoming fundraisers:
    - Screen on the Green at Pride Rock Cinema – Thursday, March 28 at 8pm
    - Read-A-Thon (late March, early April)
    - Tutus and Tiaras (Mother/Daughter event) – April 13, 10am – 12pm (Gymnasium)
    - Suits and Sneakers (Father/Son event) – April 13, 10am – 12pm (Cafeteria)
  
- **Upcoming important dates for the rest of the fiscal year:**
  - March 18: Q3 Report Card Pickup Conferences (No School for Students) – 8am – 6pm
  - March 28: Pride Rock Cinema (Screen on the Green)
  - March 29: Teacher PD Day (No School for Students)
  - April 1-5: Spring Break
  - April 8: Final contracts issued for returning staff
  - April 13: Tutus and Tiaras & Suits and Sneakers – 10a -12pm
  - April 30 – May 1, May 7 – 9: Milestones Testing for Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>
  - May 3: Field Day
  - May 7: Science Fair (if you want to judge, let me know!)
  - May 20 – 24: Half Days of School (early dismissal at 1130am and 12pm for K-5 and MS, respectively)
  - May 21: Butterfly Emergence Ceremony (Kinder Promotion)
  - May 22: Stepping Stones Ceremony (5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion)
  - May 24: Last day of school
  - May 27 – May 31: DSA as a whole district is closed
  - June 3 – 28: Summer School (8am – 12pm daily)
  - June 19: Juneteenth (DSA is closed)