



Learn. Graduate. Give Back.

MWA CEO Report to the Making Waves Academy Board

March 2023

Despite all of the rain and recent storms, spring is upon us. Spring sports have begun and students are looking to excel and stay eligible for spring events such as 8th grade promotion, 12th grade graduation, and prom. We are also starting to make plans for 2023-24. Hiring is a focus as are tweaks to the school calendar and daily schedules. Lastly, as we move into the spring and return from Spring Break in April (in a few weeks), we will be focused on end-of-the-year state tests (SBAC) with finals right around the corner.

Snapshots and Highlights

- Since Jan. both divisions have had additional All School Meetings (ASMs) to help build community.
- We are preparing the 2023-24 budget along with the LCAP budget.
- We will be soliciting feedback/input from community members on our 2023-24 LCAP/WASC goals.
- We are preparing for our mid-cycle, virtual visit this month for our WASC accreditation.
- Recruitment/hiring for leadership and critical positions for the 2023-24 school year are occurring.
- I facilitated #3 of 3 parent education workshops connecting developmental milestones & school.

Remaining Works in Progress and Challenges

- **Supervision (Campus Safety)** – In the upper school continued vigilance is needed to address on-campus vaping in bathrooms, racialized language and acts towards Black/African-American students, students using homophobic language used towards students, and students cutting to avoid class. In the middle school, helping students mediate conflict with one another and with adult staff is an area of focus. Across the school, the deans are utilizing and applying more restorative practices such as restorative circles in classrooms where harm was caused, mediated restorative conversations between student peers or between students and a teacher or staff member, and facilitated conflict resolution meetings to help students resolve conflicts. Now that we have established more consistent norms around consistently applying consequences and setting boundaries and expectations around certain types of inappropriate behaviors and actions, we are ramping up our efforts to utilize more opportunities to engage in restorative practices.
- **Planning for Next School Year While Finishing Up This Year** – Planning for next year has begun with focus areas such as the budget, course offerings, calendar, and daily schedule. However, we still need to finish up the current school year in order to demonstrate and see the progress students have made academically.

Objectives for 2022-23

Areas of Focus	Objectives	Updates
<i>Campus safety and culture</i>	Align and deploy resources to address campus safety, improve the sense of well-being on campus, and see improvements in school culture.	The strategic decision to take on supervising the deans across the campus directly has proved to be very helpful for me to better understand the various issues and concerns of students, staff, and the deans. Progress has been made in utilizing the Student-Parent/Guardian Handbook to administer consequences. The deans are beginning to better organize themselves to better take advantage of time on campus to deepen relationships with students, follow-up with students and staff after incidents, and looking for opportunities to apply restorative practices in conjunction with our discipline system to better help students understand and internalize decision-making and avoid causing intentional harm.
<i>Routines, Expectations, and Procedures (REPs) & Standardized Operating Procedures (SOPs)</i>	Develop clear routines, expectations, and procedures that are both school-wide and differentiated by grade level and by functional area.	I have seen some progress here as I was able to “audit” a number of MS and US classrooms across campus to see if things like bathroom sign-out sheets and bathroom passes were in available and in use. Overall, with the two new campus supervisors that joined the team, we are able to support classroom practices by doing more regular campus sweeps and providing more supervision.
<i>Instruction</i>	Professional development plans, trainings, and meetings that are aligned with best practices, guaranteed and viable, and that can be implemented with fidelity in both school-wide and differentiated practices.	The Assistant Principals and I continue to move into planning and execution mode for systems we can adopt for the 2023-24 school year. We are also looking at classroom grade data in our meetings to identify trends.
<i>Innovation</i>	Create opportunities and invite staff to pilot and “test and learn” different and new approaches to our instructional and non-instructional practices.	This is not a focus area for this year given other priorities that took up more capacity to address.

Strategic Plan Updates

The MWF CEO is leading efforts to do a re-fresh of the plan. Based on an initial analysis, very little should be addressed on the MWA portion of the plan. I have spoken with the service provider supporting the MWF CEO on revising the plan to provide context, reflections, and input on the current strategic plan.