

## **ED Report – October, 2019**

### **Academic Update:**

#### **Parent University:**

In an effort to support and educate our families we will be holding information sessions throughout the year called Parent University. The first Parent University was held on October 17, 2019 to assist parents with navigating the transition to high school process. Many areas high school representatives were in attendance to answer questions and present information about their programs.

A second Parent University will be held on October 24, 2019 to educate families about the charter school finance process, the Exploris School budget, as well as discuss the status of our new building initiative. The presentation is provided as an attachment in your Board packet.

#### **Academic/Social/Emotional Support:**

Beginning of the year Map Testing, and mClass Testing, and other benchmark assessments are being finalized school wide. The Kaizen team met to discuss and plan for school wide data analysis protocols to measure and monitor student growth throughout the year. The staff met this week to complete the first data day protocol and share strategies and recommendations to close any gaps identified and to continue to improve on areas of strength. Additional supports have been identified to support academically struggling students. The Fletcher Academy will be providing reading intervention supports for 35 students in addition to our on staff Interventionist.

A student Kaizen team has been created in the Middle School and Elementary School to meet with the Executive Director so that student voice is incorporated in our school improvement plans. Students will create action steps to further support and improve the school culture and climate.

A mentoring program was created this year to increase a sense of belonging and provide supports for our new students. Teachers and students participated in a mentor training program provided by Peaceful Schools to prepare for the year ahead. Eighth grade students will mentor new 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will mentor new Kindergarten students and other new students. Additionally, The Exploris School will also partner with Wake Young Men's Leadership Academy to offer a reading mentor program to further support our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. Parents can register their child to participate in this 14 week before school program.

#### **2018-19SY School Report Card (SRC) Dates**

October 10-22: LEA Preview Period #1- The SRC reporting of economically disadvantaged students only identifies those families that are enrolled in a Health and Human Services program such as Medicaid and SNAP. The SRC only identifies 5% of our students during the 18-19 school year. Our internal data from applications based on income guidelines for free and reduced lunch from the federal government identified 10% of students as economically

disadvantaged. I have talked with DPI and requested a revision in the reporting for the future so that it more accurately reflects our students that are economically disadvantaged.

October 30: SRC Release #1

**Demographics and Enrollment Data:**

	<b>Wake County Public Schools</b>	<b>The Exploris School 18-19</b>	<b>The Exploris School 19-20</b>
Black	22.7%	10%	12%
Hispanic	18%	7%	7%
Asian	9.2%	2%	2%
Multi-racial	3.8%	5%	8%
Non-Hispanic White	45.8%	75%	71%
Other	.3%	1%	1%
Free and Reduced Lunch	32.2%	10.8%	12.7%

**Enrollment Data for 2019 - 2020:**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Total # of students</b>
K	38
1	38
2	38
3	38
4	38
5	38
6	76
7	76
8	76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>456</b>

**Board Staff Rep-** Cori Greer-Banks

**Staff Rep Volunteers for Board Committees**

Facilities – Leah Perry, Jeremy Franklin (parent and spouse of teacher)

Governance- Maggie Gargan, Jill Hemingway

Development – Michelle Duncan, Mary McWay, Leslie Payne, Deb Brown

Finance – Helen Elliston, Shannon Hardy

Education Excellence – Amanda Northrup  
Equity and Diversity Subcommittee– Michelle Parkerson, Ashley Moser

## **Operations:**

### Fire Drills

Elementary School – 10/23/19  
Middle School – 10/15/19

Lockdown drills and Shelter in Place drills will be held at the end of October to ensure that all staff and students are familiar with our emergency procedures.

## **Finance:**

### Audit

Thomas, Judy, & Tucker accountant, Carolyn Gilbert, will present an overview of the audit for the period ending June, 2019. The financial statements and management letter are included in the Board packet. Findings indicate that Exploris has sound financial practices and procedures and no audit findings were reported.

### 2019-2020 Budget Update

The Finance committee met to review the year to date expenditures and project future impacts. Based on YTD activity, we are projecting an end of year surplus of \$ 43,068.70. We are realizing a \$32,485 savings over original budget projections in benefits from staff that did not elect coverage this year. The balance sheet and income statement along with the YTD budget report are attached for your review.

### Annual Fund/ Capital Campaign

The Annual Fund will kick off on November 5<sup>th</sup> – annual giving day. Kimberly Harris is the PTO committee chairperson for the Annual Fund campaign. Attached is the draft plan for the annual fund program. The balance in the School Foundation account from the capital campaign is \$540,274.

### Grant Funding

The school has applied for Title II funding which would provide professional development support for staff.

We are also in the process of applying for the School Safety Grant to secure funds for a school social worker and safety equipment.

**Facilities:**

Updates on the status of the building have been provided to all families through the monthly newsletter. Additionally, all donors to the capital campaign received a letter outlining the update and thanking them again for their contribution and support for Exploris. A facilities update will also be provided at the Parent University on 10/24/19. The presentation is attached for your reference.

Historical data on enrollment, waitlists, and staffing along with our first draft of 5 year revenue and expense projections have been provided to BB&T so they can start the process to identify our capacity for bond financing. Drafts of these documents are provided in the Board packet for your information.

**Future Meetings:**

**November will be used for deep dive committee meetings to work toward the accomplishment of goals.**

**The next Board meeting will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup>.**