

## ED Report – April 24, 2018

### Academic Update

Instructional Rounds were conducted on 4/11/18 at both campus. All administrators and 11 additional staff members observed 8 classrooms to evaluate our problem of practice. The focus for this year was understanding student engagement by collecting evidence to analyze our problem of practice – “To what degree are students taking an active role in their own learning?” Evidence collected during the observation was specific and objective. After the observation process the teams broke out into screening protocols to analyze the evidence and synthesize the data to understand trends and patterns. The trends identified in April are outlined below:

1. The longer students need to listen, the less actively they are involved.
2. Active learning increases when the time for the task is chunked into shorter portions.
3. Students in pairs tend to remain on task and active learning is more likely to occur.
4. In whole group, students begin tasks before the teacher finishes giving instructions.
5. There was more often small group/independent work than whole group.
6. Students more frequently ask for feedback from peers than teachers.
7. When students work with peers, they are more actively engaged.

A debrief meeting was held with the full staff on 4/16/18 to discuss the process, protocols, and trends. All staff members participated in a final protocol to understand the evidence and trends presented and discuss strategies for the future.

### Personnel and Staffing

Remi Wingo, 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, has submitted her letter of resignation and will not be returning to teaching next year.

Interview teams have been established to help recruit and interview candidates for the 2018-2019 openings. (3 Elementary 1 EC Teacher, 1 Global Arts – 2 due to expansion, 1 replacement for Laura Shelton, Middle School 1 replacement for Remi Wingo). The positions are posted on our website, NCJOBS.com, and Indeed. Ellie and Amanda attended a Charter School Job Fair and recruited candidates on 4/12/18 and Michelle and Amanda will attend a job fair at NCSU on 4/24/18. Teachers are also supporting the recruitment efforts to find the best candidate for Exploris.

Board approval is requested for updated list of substitute teachers below. Substitute teachers are paid \$100 per day.

Cindy Appleby  
 Jennifer Blakeslee  
 Lee-Ashley Bonfield  
 Lisa Glass  
 Elisa Hopkins  
 Lindsey Hubbard  
 Carrie Johnson-Dobbs  
 Viviane Kraus  
 Jamie Pierce  
 Jennifer Pierson  
 Kirsten Reberg-Horton  
 Sarah Robinson  
 Cheryl Rodgers  
 Amy Tinkler  
 Glenn Schell pending background check

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Fletcher Academy Partnership

Board approval is requested to partner with Fletcher Academy for an elementary tutoring program to support early literacy. The tutoring program is funding by the Fletcher Foundation and Exploris would not incur any cost for the services. Service value is estimated at \$75K per partner site to support up to 80 identified students throughout the year. Fletcher Academy would provide 4 tutors to work 3.5 hours per day Monday – Thursday. Tutors will work with groups of students in small groups typically 1:5 to support literacy decoding, fluency, spelling, comprehension, and handwriting. This initiative will further support our elementary intervention program to improve student academic outcomes.

Current Fletcher Partners – Pave Academy, Hope Charter Leadership Academy  
 Other Potential Partners – Exploris, Walnut Creek Elementary, New YMCA/Community development site school

**Enrollment Data - ADM**

	<b>ADM</b>
K	28
1	31
2	31

3	30
4	42
5	42
6	73
7	74
8	68
Total	419

**Enrollment From Lottery - Results To Date**

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Target	38	10	7	7	8	0	34	3	2
Accepted	37	10	7	8	9	0	34	3	2
Pending	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waitlisted	294	87	59	69	74	62	201	62	22
Over	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0

**Operations:**

The lease renewal and amended agreement from The Wood Pile and Gordon Smith for the Elementary campus property is attached for your review. Increase is \$150 per month to extend to August, 2019. I have requested an extended lease to cover us until the new property is available. Bob Kingry and I will be meeting with Gordon on Wednesday to finalize the agreement.

A new exterior lighting system was ordered for the elementary campus and will be installed by a parent volunteer. We have also completed a grant from Duke Energy for a \$2,000 reimbursement for energy efficiency to offset these costs.

We are still in the process of finalizing quotes for the security improvements. Board approval will be requested once we have final quotes and a final recommendation. The school is very thankful that the PTO will also contribute \$10,000 toward these initiatives. Another area we are exploring is how the increased security funding proposed for next year in the state budget may or may not be allocated to charter schools which could also support these improvements. Summarized below is an outline of the security upgrade initiatives that are being evaluated.

Cameras

- We’re getting a quote from Sonitrol to add external and internal cameras to both locations, with the ability to pull up any camera view on any mobile device at any time. We would have access to ~30 days of historical video data, and the feed would be available to Sonitrol personnel if an alarm is tripped.

- In lieu of Sonitrol, we can utilize a cloud-based system using Amazon/Arlo/Nest cameras and the Amazon Cam service for \$199.99/year. We would still have remote access, and 30 days of historical video.

### Security

- We're getting a quote to add an access control box for the Middle Campus that is tied to our Sonitrol system. This would add intrusion detection to our Middle Campus, as well as magnetic door sensors, and integration with our online security system.
- In lieu of Sonitrol, we can utilize a consumer-grade cloud-based system using Simplisafe to add basic intrusion detection, and exterior door and window monitoring. This system would not be integrated into our existing system.

### Intercom/Phone/Speakers

- We're getting quotes on VOIP options as this technology will allow us to move the purchased devices to the new building. The different options are hosted versus on-premises. The hosted options provide all of the software via the cloud, and require no on-site installation, but require a monthly fee. The on-premises options require purchasing more hardware now but would likely save us money in the long run as the on-premises service costs should be much lower per year.
- All of the intercom options will add 2-way phones to every classroom, internal speakers that will cover all school spaces, and external speakers to reach every part of our two campuses. The campus staff (specifically Carolee and Mary Margaret) will be able to communicate with any specific room, floor, or whole campus, and each classroom can communicate with the admin console.
- Moving forward, we can add SIP-trunking so that every room could also dial out for conference calls, parent calls, etc.

### Locks

- We're working with Hedgehog (Middle Campus) and Mod Space (Elementary Campus) to get bids to replace and/or add any required locks so that all rooms are securable during a lockdown drill.

Fire Drill was held for Middle campus on 4/24 and scheduled for Elementary on 4/27/18.

### **Finance:**

We are currently working on the 2018 -2019 budget and finalizing projected expenses. The first draft will be presented at the May Board meeting. Anticipated surplus is \$6,221.92. The balance sheet and income statement along with the YTD budget are attached for your review.

Any additional legal expenses incurred from complaints will be funded from reserves.

### **Capital Campaign/ Foundation**

Input from the Board is needed to recommend a replacement for The School Foundation Chair position since Cal Cunningham will be finishing up in June.

75 % of all Exploris families have contributed to the capital campaign.

Total Pledged	\$293,164.63
Total Collected	\$141,653.81
Rollover "Savings"	\$304,705.68
Total Amount	\$597,870.31
Remaining	\$402,129.69