

## ED Report – August 2018

### Academic and School Opening Update:

New Teachers attended a 2 day orientation program in addition to the 5 day full staff professional development work week. Full staff participated in training sessions and workshops on the following topics.

- Co Teaching Professional Development
- Review of Strategic Plan
- Budget Update
- Academic Results
- Teacher Working Conditions Workshop
- Goal Setting Discussion
- Professional development team building with Brix Scholars
- Professional development - Myers Briggs workshop

The Open House was well attended on both campuses by students, families, and all staff.

Fletcher Academy is providing us with 3 reading intervention support specialists for ES and will be working with targeted students in small groups Monday – Thursday in the mornings.

Exploris was selected to receive the School Mental Health Personnel grant which will provide us an additional full time school counselor to support the social and emotional needs of our students. The additional FTE school counselor will implement Tier 1/ Tier 2 supports by following NC Professional School Counseling Standards and guidance from the American School Counseling Association (ASCA) on the Role of the Professional School Counselor and Multi-Tiered System of Supports.

### Upcoming Testing

September	Fall MAP Testing
September 4 - 24	Fall mClass Window
September 5	BOG Testing
September 6	Parent Orientation Night ES, 5:30
September 13	Parent Orientation Night MS 5:30

School Report Card will be released publicly on November 29.

The new chromebooks and iPads were distributed throughout K-8 increasing student access to digital learning and allowing staff to fully utilize digital instructional strategies. These technology additions will allow our 7th and 8th grades to be one-to-one for electronic devices.

We will also be able to offer 24/7 computer check-out for students that cannot provide their own device.

Our annual Japanese International Cultural Exchange was held 8/20 – 8/27. Eight students from Shinonome Middle School were partnered with Exploris home hosts and school hosts for their visit. Three Japanese teachers also partnered with our staff during our international cultural exchange program. Students and teachers taught Japanese lessons to Exploris students, visited area museums, Durham Bulls stadium, NCSU, enjoyed canoeing on Falls Lake, and tasted the local cuisine during their visit. It was an incredible educational and transformative experience for all involved.

## **Personnel and Staffing**

### **Board approval is requested for the following:**

Recommend that the Board approves the following new hires

- Mariah Perry – K Teaching Partner

Recommend that the Board approve the use of the following service providers to meet the needs of our EC students.

- Dr. Catherine Snow – Psychologist
- Jenn Grellner – Speech Therapist
- Lisa O’Connor - Speech Therapist
- Cheryl Stephenson – Occupational Therapist

Recommend that the Board approve the following student teachers from NCSU.

- Sameerah El-Jurf –Full Practicum Fall 2018 – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts with Devon Rose
- Rachel Benisvy – Shadow in the Fall 2018 – Full Practicum Spring 2019 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts with Jessie Francese

The administrative team is reviewing and evaluating the current structure. We are evaluating the need for an Associate Director of Finance, Operations, and Facilities. The requirements of the position will be further defined along with an assessment of the budget implications.

## **Operations:**

Implementation of the new lunch vendor at the elementary campus with Spicy Green Gourmet has gone very well. Meals have been provided on both campuses for students in need of lunch. (Not all forms are returned so we anticipate more economically disadvantaged students in the future.) Spicy Green went back to Durham Day 1 to get more food to ensure needs were met at ES. Jersey Mike's went back and made extra sandwiches for MS on Wednesday, A Place at the Table provided emergency lunches on Thursday, by Friday My Hot Lunch Box was set up to provide donated lunches as well.

The pilot launch of the online Charter Pay system for the online processing of payments for Before and After Care and Field Experiences was not successful. A parent letter was sent

apologizing for the frustration and inconvenience since the full system implementation did not go as planned during the test phase. Pay Pal was re-established for the Before and After Care program and teachers will continue to collect and track field experience payments.

Projected Enrollment Data for 2018 - 2019:

A total of 132 new students have been added during the 2018 – 2019 enrollment process. As of 8/21/18 there were 453 students enrolled. The remaining 3 students accepted but have had unique situations and have not yet attended for their first day. We have made multiple contacts and are offering seats to the next students on the waitlist.

<b>Projected Total Enrollment -456</b>										
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<i>Total</i>	38	38	38	38	38	38	74	76	75*	<b>453</b>
<i>New</i>	37	13	10	10	11	1	36**	5	9	132

\*1 Recurring student on Medical has not returned to date  
 \*\*2 to be added to 6<sup>th</sup> grade

**Finance:**

The anticipated increase in the state per pupil funding has increased our original surplus projected from \$13,996.06 to \$53,985.56. The balance sheet and income statement along with the YTD budget are attached for your review.

**Governance**

The revised weighted lottery policy was submitted for review by the CSAB. After that review it will be sent to the State Board of Education for approval. In the future we may want to modify our lottery policy to include that completion of enrollment packet is required in order to formalize acceptance within the specified timeframe. This year many new families were non-compliant with paperwork which caused a delay in getting all new students fully enrolled.

**Capital Campaign/ Foundation**

Foundation Account Balance as of 8/20/18: **\$480,347.36**

Plans are underway for campaign targeting new families to be launched early in October.

**Board of Director Tour Day - October 10, 2018 – MS 9:00 am, ES following MS 9:45**