



Madrona Elementary School

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Dear Mr. Huber-Kantola and Esteemed Board Members:

I am writing to update you on the happenings at Madrona. First, I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to visit in January regarding the Student of the Year. Presenting those kids and their families is so meaningful to them. I truly appreciate your gift of time and interest. Those connections make for powerful learners as they progress in our schools.

Madrona is moving along well. We are in the midst of our mid-year assessments and are anxious to see the progress our students are making. The extra support our half-time Title One Teacher and our additional assistant time should help us make some gains this year. Kids are getting lots of extra help in reading, math and writing. Our staff is benefitting from help from our two teachers on special assignment who have been here several times and have provided individual help as well. Math coaching is also a great way to help teaches move forward in their professional growth. These are valued assets.

Our after school programs are two-fold. One program serves target groups for 8-10 weeks and then switches subject area and grade levels served. Our first session began mid-October and finished in January. That session focused on fourth grade writing. Students stay an additional hour and receive instruction from our Title One teacher and an assistant. Our next session which started today targets 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students who struggle with math. Our staff will be looking at assessment data in March to determine who we will serve in our last session from April through May. Our other afterschool program is a one day a week program aimed at supporting students who have social needs that impact their behavior at school and their success academically. Our SOASTC counselor, along with a Title One assistant, provide hands-on-themed units of study in science, math, writing and art. The kids get the experience of doing some community projects such as gardening to help learn the social skills they need. Leadership is emphasized and developed as well. We are excited about both after school programs. Kids and parents appreciate the opportunities being offered.

Our PBS program is doing well. We are currently planning a "Family Night" for students and parents. Students will enjoy watching a movie in comfy clothes, their favorite blankie and pillow for support. Our PTO is partnering to provide popcorn and drinks for the kids. Our parents will be working with our staff in learning how to apply Positive Behavior Support strategies in their homes. They will also be provided access to the parenting materials we have in our library for checkout. We are anticipating a good turnout for this event. It should help parents and our school at the same time as we share good ideas for helping students become the best they can be.

As always, we would love to see any of you at our school. Please drop in!

Sincerely, Lise Van Brunt