



RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY

POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION

Tonight, the District recognizes the following individuals for their outstanding achievement and contribution to the Beaverton School District and the community. The following recognition exemplifies the Pillar of Innovation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

WE Innovate: Virtual Summer School – Kinnaman Elementary School

At Kinnaman Elementary School, the learning doesn't stop when summer starts. This past summer, 2nd grade teachers teamed up to stop the so-called "summer slide." When young minds sit idle for the summer months, students sometimes slide backwards in the progress they made in reading achievement. "We had been looking at our reading data all year, and we really noticed a group of kids that fell two to three reading levels over the summer. We knew that could probably happen again," says 2nd grade teacher Chelsea Cook.

The teachers worked with principal Michael Crandall to devise a plan. They had received iPads last year, as part of their Positive Change Grant. "As summer approached, we were thinking about how we could actually use these iPads to our advantage," says Cook. Just like that, the Virtual Summer School was born. Teachers decided to use Seesaw, an app that allows students to document what they are learning with photos, videos and digital creations.

The school targeted specific students. "We looked at kids who were highly motivated, who dropped over the summer but made huge gains over the course of this last school year," says Crandall. Parents and students attended a family night to learn about the rules and sign a contract.

Each week, teachers posted assignments in four key areas: comprehension, accuracy, fluency and vocabulary. Students also aimed to read 30 minutes a day. The assignments, as well as videos of students reading are posted on Seesaw and teachers provided constructive feedback. Every Wednesday, students were able to visit the school library to check out books and ask questions of teachers.

The last week of summer, students completed an assessment and the results are remarkable. Two students actually increased their reading skills over the summer break, 12 students maintained their current level and two students dropped slightly.

"I'm so excited to be a teacher in this day and age," says Cook. Based on the success of this first Virtual Summer School, Kinnaman plans to expand the program and spread the word to the District's other schools.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the School Board recognize Kinnaman Elementary School for their contributions to student success.

District Goal: All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals, developed in collaboration with teachers and parents, and will be prepared for post-secondary education and career success.

The Beaverton School District recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups. It is the policy of the Beaverton School District that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, age, veterans' status, genetic information or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment.