

CASMAN Academy Director's Report

Sarah Bailey, Director

December 2011

Below is a report of progress on our goals for this past month. Note highlighted areas for desired action or key dates to remember.

CASMAN Academy will:

Develop and Retain High Quality Staff

- Teaching staff and I attended MI-FIL in Lansing. It was one of the most beneficial MI-FILs I've participated in.
- Shelly received one day of training on using Edge curriculum.
- Bryan Morgan is the long-term sub who replaced Deb Nichols. He is fresh out of college and certified in both math and English. The students have transitioned very well in spite of the mid-year change and Bryan is doing a wonderful job so far.
- Staff received training in the use of Achieve 3000, our reading improvement program. Those staff members who were previously trained received individualized, updated training and new staff received an orientation to the program.
- Most staff members attended the county-wide training on January 30. Some staff members returned to the building in the afternoon to receive technology training to fulfill our MACUL grant agreement.
- Shelly VanVoorst took and passed her test in high school reading which now fully qualifies (meets highly qualified guidelines) her to teach high school English providing she uses the Edge curriculum which is approved by the State of Michigan. She continues to take coursework to allow her to be fully certified in English.

Develop/Maintain and Prioritize Curriculum Aligned to Michigan/National Curriculum Frameworks.

- The literacy pd with Elaine Waldon is centered on meeting the new Common Core Standards in the area of literacy across all content areas. The teachers participate in this training and alignment weekly.

Enhance the Academy's Climate

- We continue to recognize one student every week for our road sign in front of the school.
- Each new enrollee and a parent/guardian met with me before being accepted at CASMAN Academy. In addition, Henry held individual, 30 minute orientation sessions with each student, students had NWEA testing, and students met with Kay for academic planning. This enrollment assures a smoother beginning to each semester.

Maintain, Manage and Enhance Facilities and Assets

- The boiler is rearing its ugly head again. Actually, it's not the boiler, but the pneumatics attached to the boiler. Kay Kurtz and Raul Vasquez have been working diligently to get the problems solved at the lowest possible cost.

Increase Public Awareness, Participation and Perception of CASMAN Academy

- Plans are well underway for the Corn Hole Tournament to be held in March.

Other

- We have two committees meeting regularly to address strategic planning for CASMAN's future. One committee, Public Relations, is addressing short-term needs, while another committee, called the Task Force, is meeting to address longer-term planning.
- Wavecrest Academy, a charter/alternative academy in Holland, brought approximately 15 staff members to CASMAN on January 20 to observe RTP in action and to interview staff on its use. Henry organized the entire event. Our staff members were stars!
- On a personal note, I enjoyed going to my son's Air Force Basic Training Graduation in San Antonio, TX, and am enjoying parenting my 2 ½ year old granddaughter while my daughter and son-in-law are in Afghanistan with the Marine Corps.