

Directors' Report

CCS Board of Education Meeting, September 18, 2023

We are thrilled to announce the hire of Will Lyke as Online Technology Coordinator! He will be working closely with the online program for approximately 20 hours per week, and then will be assisting with tech needs in the building for about 10 hours a week. Welcome, Will!

The strategic planning sessions for 2023 have been scheduled - see that section of the board packet for more details.

The CCS Team has done a great job organizing committees and the stipend process! Thanks to Ronda, Mindy, Amy M and Lisa L for stepping up and taking on this responsibility!

Title applications have been submitted. Our first ESSER funds deadline is approaching on 9/30 and Joe Aliperto is on track to apply those funds to our budget as planned. We've been working on the Annual/WBWF report, many thanks to the staff who have contributed.

Online Program

Enrollment: Currently we are at 290 enrolled students (24 K-5, 29 6-8, 237 9-12) plus 2 tuition-paying students (out-of-state or homeschooled). Our enrollment typically continues increasing through the month of September. Last year we had a waitlist by October.

Our focus for the first two days with students was on building relationships, orientation, scheduling Google Meets, taking STAR tests, and ensuring they understand their responsibilities and the expectations as an online student. Staff reported that this was extremely helpful and students seem more engaged already.

Our two main goals this year for the online program are 1) Consistency and Rigor and 2) Student Engagement. Staff have been participating in "mini-PD" sessions at our staff meetings on these topics:

1) Consistency & Rigor

We are focusing on specific expectations for students in online classes, using the BOTS acronym. Staff are sharing these expectations with students to follow in group and one-one meetings.

BOTS - Student Norms & Expectations

- **B**e in a Learning Space (Dress for success, quiet place, no distractions, wait to eat, turn camera off if surroundings are distracting)
- **O**n Time and On Task (not on their phones or doing other things, focus on the meeting/discussion)
- **T**ake Your Turn (Raise Hand/Mute)
- **S**it Up and Join In! (don't be in bed/laying down, participate, camera on when you can)

2) Student Engagement Data Tracking

We want to know what works best to engage our online students. 5 D's!

1. Determine what data points we believe are critical to track - what do we think leads to better outcomes for our students? - September
2. Develop a user-friendly system to track these data points - Sept/October
3. Do it! October-April
4. Data analysis - May
5. Decision making about what our needs are for the future - June

Seat Based Program:

School has started off extremely well! Students and staff are happy to be here. We are fully staffed, but very short on substitute teachers and paraprofessionals. We are trying to recruit. We are also trying to recruit parents/guardians to come to the playground, especially families of middle school students.

The students have adjusted to not having physical education every day, and are beginning to enjoy Art and STEM. I am very pleased that we are able to offer this!

We had a fabulous program with a magician on our First Wednesday of the Month celebration. He spoke about the magic of being kind and did some really amazing magic tricks! We used Esser money for this and he was well worth it. At the end of September we are partnering with the Log Church to bring in a special speaker, Tasha Schuh, to speak with the students. She was here a few years ago and everyone really loved her! We used Esser money for this as well. We are hoping to have a program about once a month if possible, use the Esser money, and focus on social/emotional betterment of students and staff.

Bus safety, which is mandatory within the first 10 days of school, went very great. The kids listened well and the middle schoolers assisted with the evacuation at the back of the bus!

The same day, we also had the fire department come on the grounds. They park where they would usually be in the event of a real fire, this gets kids perspective on what things would be like. It was also Friday, and hot, so they sprayed the kids with water - our new tradition.

The LAKE foundation hustled and got so many things done for us before school started! They are so great! We also have more cabinets being measured, built and installed in the next coming weeks. We are truly appreciative of their generosity!!

Our enrollment is a little lower than anticipated. We are at 151 at the time of this report. We are usually very fluid with kids coming until approximately October 15. We have a few inquiries each week. The low middle school numbers are wonderful in the way that the students can receive such individualized instruction. We are finding that the biggest reason for a departure is due to sports and activities.