

OAC Principal's Report

June 3, 2020

Online Learning

I'd like to brag that the teachers and staff at OAC did a great job of jumping into online learning, keeping in touch with students and volunteering for extra duties as needed. They were helpful to each other, with building "experts" helping others set up applications or learn the finer points. While it was a bit scary for some to start online teaching, most, if not all, grew stronger in their skills and are committed to the blended learning style of teaching. I am looking forward to the professional development the district is planning for the 2020-2021 school year on blended learning and watching the teachers embed technology as another tool in the learning bag, rather than an event we occasionally do. If we learned nothing from the shut out, we learned that technology is not only a fun and creative tool, it can easily be a daily tool when used correctly and wisely.

Summer Plans

- Currently, two teachers at a time have been in the building, moving their rooms. This is part of our redesign plan to put our grade levels back together. The separation had not worked as intended, and the teachers were anxious to have their team and students close together. The planning becomes even more data-driven and students can be flexibly grouped with all four teachers for parts of their day.
- The carpet that was to be laid last summer is going down now! This process started on Monday, June 1, and we think will conclude within 2 weeks. The custodians are thrilled to have carpet tiles that can be easily replaced when cleaning is not an option.
- Mrs. Jennings and Miss Megan, along with several teacher volunteers, are working on gathering, consolidating, and reassigning the storage closets throughout the building. In a cursory inventory of school supplies, we found much! Teachers bulk-ordered supplies, and we knew exactly what needed to be ordered, and what we didn't. Our purpose is two-fold: to be accurate on supplies available and to guard against running out or over-usage.
- We are excited to establish a permanent book room. As part of the literacy program, we needed a place to store the materials and manipulatives which are currently in the library, classrooms, and hallway closets. The stage had been converted to a Fastlane classroom, which was not used. This space will be converted with shelving (thanks to the capital outlay approval) and be transformed into a space where teachers can sit and work with their resources around them. We will also be using this space to store class sets of items scattered around the building: microscopes and globes, just two examples.

Faculty News

- We are happy to welcome Mr. Scott Adams and Mrs. Amy Hickman as new special education teachers at OAC. Mr. Adams will work primarily with first graders, and Mrs. Hickman will facilitate the high needs behavior program.
- Twenty OAC teachers (22 overall) have signed up to attend a classroom management training this summer with Mrs. Jennings. CHAMPS is a proactive-preemptive system that draws on common sense, teaching expectations, and correcting fluently.
- Additionally, many of the OAC staff are attending several Greenbush University offerings over the next two months.

If this works...Our **Kindergarten Round Up** video!

https://drive.google.com/file/d/18r2DDKH0ax33vLYsOniPz4Gi3p_aY8F-/view?usp=sharinghttps://drive.google.com/file/d/18r2DDKH0ax33vLYsOniPz4Gi3p_aY8F-/view?usp=sharing

Three quick pictures – student belongings ready for pickup, after pickup, and our awesome meal crew (taken in March!).



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