

# Principal's Report

## Amherst School District

School: Clark-Wilkins Elementary School

December 2017

Gerry St. Amand, Nicola Fraley

### Elementary School Excellence

**Building Goal:** Develop and implement high-quality curriculum, assessment, and instructional practices to support personalized student learning.

#### December Late Start - Differentiated Professional Development

- K-4 Classroom teachers, special subject teachers, and interventionists had a brief overview of the upcoming work in PACE. Teams then continued their work on developing and refining performance assessments with options to attend mini sessions focusing on rubrics, validation, and questions and answers.
- Paraprofessionals at Clark School continued their work on creating the math intervention kits to be used to support core instruction and Tier 2 with kindergarten students .
- Specialized paraprofessionals at Wilkins reviewed the Student Response Team protocols and Health and Safety protocols with building administrators and C-W nurses.
- K-4 Special educators and related service providers worked with Meg Beauchamp, Karen Rimol, and Janet Davis at Clark School on district procedures and paperwork.

Clark- Wilkins curriculum coordinators continue to meet on a monthly basis with Kathleen Murphy and Christine Landwehrle. At the December meeting, curriculum coordinators signed up for times to contribute to the weekly staff newsletter, The Owl Update, showcasing a resource or event related to their curriculum areas. These updates are also stored on the staff website set up using SharePoint.

**Trimester One Report Cards:** Report cards for the first trimester were sent home with all students Pre K - fourth grade on December 15. Teachers collaborated with colleagues on their reports to ensure that the information sent to parents provided a complete and accurate picture of their student's progress towards meeting the grade level academic, pro-social, and behavioral expectations.

**Building Goal:** Establish a community, classroom and school-wide, that fosters and ensures the social-emotional development and growth of all students.

**Responsive Classroom:** On Thursday, November 30 Gail Lunetta, Responsive Classroom Trainer and Consultant, spent the day at Wilkins School. During the visit Gail conducted some classroom observations and gave feedback on how the *Responsive Classroom* approach is alive in our school community. We are using the feedback to plan for future professional development opportunities and to our next steps in the implementation process. The visit has also given us an opportunity to pause and reflect on our current accomplishments and celebrate the steps already taken to ensuring our school provides a safe and positive learning environment for all students.

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Our next steps include a late winter book study group focusing on *The Power of Our Words*, reenergizing our school-wide rules, and continuing to implement universal signals and morning meeting.

### Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

Liz Alexakos, first-grade teacher, gave a brief presentation at the December PTA Meeting on Social and Emotional Learning at C-W. She highlighted the key components of both programs and discussed the need to work in partnership with families to support the students' growth and success with SEL.

### Bus Transportation Code of Conduct - Update

C-W administrators met with personnel from Butler Bus earlier in the month to discuss student behavior on the school buses. Our intent is to develop proactive approaches, lessons, and activities that support students to be increasingly successful, safe, and respectful when riding the school bus. This burden of responsibility falls on both school personnel, bus drivers and supervisors from Butler Bus. We are working collaboratively to identify areas of needed improvement and develop materials that will ensure that students and families understand behavioral expectations and support our drivers when responding to misbehavior.

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### **Diligent Fiscal Oversight**

**FY18 Budget:** The C-W Administrative team is continuing to approve requisitions as they come forward.

**FY19 Budget:** We continue to work to prepare a comprehensive and fiscally responsible budget that meets the current and project needs of our students and staff.

**Ways and Means:** The C-W Administrative team met with members of the Ways and Names Committee on Friday, December 15 to review the proposed 2018-2019 budget. The presentation and subsequent conversation focused on staffing changes and the development of the new Life Skills Program at Wilkins.

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### **Inspirational & Effective Teaching**

#### Teacher-Leader Effectiveness Evaluations

Observations	Completed to Date	To be Completed
Informal (10-15 minutes in class)	55	134
Formal (pre-observation conference, 45-60 minute observation, post-observation conference)	32	0

Observations are currently being completed by all four C-W administrators.

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### **Innovative Technology Integration**

January Late Start will focus on technology at C-W. Similar to our November PD day, all staff will be offered sessions on a variety of topics to meet their individual needs. Topics will include Navigating One Drive, Collaboration through Shared Documents, Interactive Learning Sites and Programs that Extended and Enrich the Curriculum.

### **SAU #39 Strategic Planning**

C-W enrollment has increased by 21 students since the first day of school. We have enrolled 12 students since mid-November.

Clark-Wilkins Enrollment Figures 2017-2018

Grade	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.
Pre-K	35	35	35	36	36						
K	106	110	108	109	108						
1	138	136	139	137	137						
2	115	116	116	118	121						
3	131	133	134	133	135						
4	140	143	142	145	149						
<b>Total</b>	665	673	674	678	686						

### **Summary of Upcoming Events**

December 25 – January 1	Holiday Recess
January 3	Staff Meeting – Wilkins
January 9	Late Start – Invention Convention Meeting, 4:15-5:00 (Snow Date – Jan. 10)
January 10	Kindergarten Science Programming with PMEC “Pushes and Pulls” Fourth Grade Spelling Bee 8:45-10:00
January 10	Amherst Public Hearing 7:00 PM, SHS Theater
January 12	MLK/Kindness Day School-Wide Assembly – 2:00PM
January 15	MLK Day – No School
January 19	Fourth Grade Geography Bee 9:45
January 26	Progress Reports