

Directors' Report

August 21, 2014

ADMINISTRATION

Prop 39/Co-location Update:

Facility Alterations Requests:

With enthusiasm and relief, we share that the district has completed or is in the process of completing the following requested alterations at our WC co-location:

- Installation of outdoor sinks
- Installation of drinking fountains with filtered water
- Installation of hose bibs so we can water our plants.
- Installation of pedestrian gate between blacktop area and field
- Moving of fire gate to allow unrestricted access to our blacktop area for recess and emergency evacuations
- Installation of office walls (work not yet started)

In addition, the district and WC staff has cleaned our two new classrooms, extended the privacy fencing to include these rooms, and built a step for access to the rooms.

Co-Location Partnership Update:

Ms. Debra Bryant is the new WESM principal. Administration has met with her multiple times over the summer to build a collaborative relationship and work out logistical issues that have arisen. She is eager to continue the positive relationship established between our two schools.

Campus Security:

In order to keep the WESM campus secure, the driveway gate on Hastings off 91st Street will be locked during the school day, from 8:30am- 3pm. Parents will therefore need to leave campus by 8:30am if parked in the school lot. Ample street parking is available on 91st at all times. Pedestrian access will be open during all school hours. The gate will open at 3pm for pick-up.

Mar Vista Campus Update:

This summer, in addition to the annual maintenance (e.g. carpet cleaning, repairs, etc.) upgraded security measures and an updated School Safety Plan has been established to secure the Mar Vista campus. Marina Christian Fellowship collaborated with the school in the process and shared the cost of the fencing upgrades.

The following safety precautions and purchases have been made:

- 8' Security pedestrian gate with buzzer at the Culver entrance
- 8' Security pedestrian gate by the Kindergarten entrance
- Clearing of foliage to deter intruders
- Repairs of existing fencing
- Purchase of upgraded privacy screening for fences
- Purchase of additional two-way radios for classrooms and offices

- Installation of security motion detector lights to brighten the campus 360 degrees around the school building
- Portable barrier to separate playground from parking lot and cars
- New drop-off/pick-up procedures, including a separate waiting area at end of day for students who walk off campus with parents

Campus Security:

In order to keep the Mar Vista campus secure, the driveway gates on Culver Blvd. and Braddock Ave. and the Culver pedestrian gate will be locked during the school day, from 8:05am - 2:00pm. There will be parking for staff only in the school lot. The kindergarten pedestrian gate and Braddock and Culver valet drop-off/pick-up driveway will be locked during the kindergarten school day, from 8:35am – 1:50pm. Parents who require access to the campus during the school day will be buzzed in at the Culver Blvd. pedestrian gate.

The kindergarten gate and the kindergarten valet pick-up driveway will reopen at 1:50pm to allow for student pick-up.

The Culver Blvd. and Braddock Ave. drive gates and the Culver pedestrian gate will be open at 2:00pm to allow for pick-up. Grades students being picked up via the valet will wait in their designated spot on the blacktop. Grades student who are being picked up by a parent “walking” on campus will wait on the “egg”.

Long Term Site Update:

The school has hired an independent consultant to establish and cultivate community and governmental relationships to support both long-term site acquisition and development for OCS. The consultant will provide a summary of deliverables achieved each month, including dates of meetings and discussion highlights.

In July, the administration met with JoAnn Koplin to determine next steps with respect to our site search. JoAnn arranged a meeting with the administration and Damon Hubbard, Real Estate Developer with ACRE from Pleasanton who works with investors to build charter schools. Damon is excited about the project and is actively searching for land on the Westside for a school site.

Administration is also in communication with Marina Del Rey Middle School principal about possible long-term site collaboration. Updates will be provided when available.

In addition, Joel Chicowski at joel@sitespecificarchitecture.net is heading up a parent site task force to assist with the site search.

Enrollment Update:

2014-15 Enrollment as of August 18, 2014 is 468.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

MiSiS

MiSiS is the new student information system LAUSD is requiring all schools to use. Since MiSiS does not incorporate all the information needed for reporting to the California Department of Education and the Los Angeles County Office of Education, it will still be necessary to use School Master as our internal student information system and CALPADS for reporting purposes. For now, the school will continue to manage 3 school information software systems in order to be in compliance with all district, county, state, and federal reporting.

Common Core Textbooks:

The school purchased new math textbooks to ensure alignment with the new Common Core Standards. First through fifth grade teachers will receive training with the publisher of EnVision textbooks during our annual in-service orientation, prior to the start of school. Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade teachers will receive training with the publisher of CMP3, math textbook.

Summer Training:

The teachers and administration participated in various curricular trainings during the summer. A total of nine teachers and the Directors' attended the two-week Waldorf Hybrid training at Steiner College. In addition, most teachers participated in the Art of Teaching for their specific grade level. Several teachers participated in summer training at the Waldorf Institute of Southern California (WISC) and others received online training through Millennialchild.

The Special Education team received training in "Read Naturally" and Linda MoodBell in the areas of reading comprehension, decoding, and mathematics.