

## Director Report December 2015

### **“Micro” Moment:**

It was the week after the Job Fair, and managers were getting ready to interview selected applicants. The Chief of Police, a fourth grade girl, had invited several students to interview for Peacekeeper positions.

On the first day of interviews, she asked Mrs. Williams, "Will you be doing the interviews with me?"

"No," replied Mrs. Williams, "I'll be interviewing candidates for the warehouse, so you'll have to do the interviews yourself."

On the verge of tears, as she tends to become anxious about new situations, the Chief said, "I'm really nervous about this." Mrs. Williams reminded her that *she* was the Chief, and the *other* students should be the ones feeling nervous about their interviews. They reviewed her list of interview questions together, and the Chief said she was ready. She not only did a fantastic job conducting the interviews all on her own, she also made great decisions about who to hire with valid reasons behind each decision. She was not at all nervous on days two and three of interviews, and she now has a great Peacekeeper force maintaining order at MACS. The increase in her confidence is clearly visible!

### **Upcoming at MACS:**

Administration and staff have been working tirelessly on a standard based report card. Thanks to our Student Information System (SIS) ALMA, the process has gone smoother than anticipated. Staff received a webinar training in November and have been working in K-2 and 3-5 teams to establish essential standards, grading rubrics and report card components. All parents have been given an ALMA log in to a “parent portal” where they can access archived announcements from administration, school cancellation announcements, and their child’s report card. Report cards will be accessible to parents through the parent portable on December 18th. Trimester one grades close on December 11th.

MACS has truly been a “community of caring” through the holiday season. We had a canned food drive at Thanksgiving time and we were able to deliver TWO CAR LOADS of canned goods to the local soup kitchen. The class with the most donated goods recieved a small trophy and popsicle party! For the upcoming winter holidays, administration has reached out to MACS families in need and have obtained “wish list” items for our Giving Tree. If anyone wishes to contribute, they may take a mitten off the Giving Tree and purchase an item and return it back to MACS unwrapped by December 18th. Lastly, we will be running a Coat Swap at the upcoming

Pancake Breakfast on December 12th. Families can bring a clean, gently used child's coat and or snow pants and swap out! Clearly, there is a lot of "heart" being displayed around the school this month!

**MicroSociety Update:**

Market Place has opened!

Students have been working hard on getting their agencies and ventures ready to open for business. One December 4th, the MicroSociety / Multipurpose room was a busy place! Students cashed their paychecks at the bank and went shopping! There was tons of excitement and pride as students saw their hard work pay off.

On December 9th-11th, Sylvia, from MicroSociety Inc will be at MACS to continue with our staff development. She plans to meet individually with administration and staff, attend a market place day, and offer a workshop and mid-year training during our early release on December 9th.

Next up, to formalize a teacher evaluation format. Amy hopes to start formal observations in January.

**Friends of MACS Update:**

Amy joined the Friends of MACS meeting this month. Funding sources for charter schools was explained and that the operating budget depends greatly on the efforts of the Friends of MACS group and our families. It was suggested and agreed to split into two subgroups. One to help support and focus on community building events and the other to help with the fundraising efforts to support the operating budget. Tennille Huxley and Amy Leblanc will co-chair the two efforts. Amy will chair community events and Tennille will chair fundraising.

Next up is the December 12th Pancake Breakfast. Tickets can be purchased through a MACS family or by contacting Susannah Williams. Tickets are \$10 per person and seating times will be every half hour between 9:00am and 12:00am.

The next FOM meeting is set for January 6th at 7pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amy Bottomley, Director