



Director Report

February 2017

“Relate. Connect. Understand”

“Micro” Moment:

Last week during Micro reflection/production time, the two fifth graders who run Pencils, Inc. (a small business that sells decorated pencils) came to Mrs. Williams in a panic. “The warehouse is out of pencils - what are we going to sell at marketplace tomorrow!?” Mrs. Williams suggested they make something decorative that they could sell to citizens to put on their pencils. With a sigh, one of them said, “We tried making pom-pom pals and gluing them to the pencil top erasers, but the glue wouldn’t hold so we couldn’t get them to stay on....” They sat and hashed out a few ideas when a third grader who had overheard the discussion came over with a suggestion. “Why don’t you use pipe cleaners to attach them to the pencils? The warehouse has plenty of those. I can show you how to wrap them around the pencil so they won’t fall off,” he said. They took him up on his offer and headed for the warehouse.

On the next Marketplace day, Pencils, Inc. was selling a whole new product. They made pencil grips out of pipe cleaners and had little Valentine’s Day messages that customers could attach if they wanted to buy one and have it delivered to a friend. They had taken the third grader’s suggestion and shaped it into something they knew would be a popular product in the week leading up to the holiday. What a wonderful example of Micro citizens putting collaboration, creativity, problem-solving -- 21st century skills -- into action! It is amazing to watch the younger students develop the confidence to speak up to their older peers, as well.

Enrollment Numbers (as of 2/14/16):

K - 20	4th - 22
1st - 20	5th - 23
2nd- 21	6th- 23
3rd - 21	Total : 150

Upcoming/Recent Happenings at MACS:

The most recent update involving the grant writer and efforts between her and Amy:
The preliminary grant application to the Louis Calder Foundation was denied. We did ask the committee for feedback as to where we could improve. No response as of yet. Recently, a

\$5,000 technology grant was submitted to Lowe's. We are currently researching for another small grant to submit as well.

Amy wrote a project based grant for the City of Nashua and will be presenting and answering questions with their board on February 15th prior to the board making a final decision on awards. The grants focus is on bringing a free micro camp to students over the summer.

The latest news on the NH Lottery Commission's approval is that we had the background check paperwork sent back due to incorrect fee amounts being sent. That has been rectified and we hope to have approval by next month. Then we can get dates assigned by Boston Billiards.

Amy has been invited to a panel discussion on non traditional education with the Chamber of Commerce. Due to the snow storm, it will be rescheduled. Panelists also include World Academy and ASD.

Formal yearly observations are almost complete. The administrative team hopes to wrap them up by the end of Feb/ first week in March. Teacher contracts will be handed out in April once the board has approved budget expenses for the upcoming year.

Amy has been working with Fred C. Church on new liability and workmans comp plans and pricing. They are starting a charter school consortium that already has commitments from Mills Falls, ASD and a handful of other charter schools in NH.

Snow day update: We currently have 6 snow days under our belt this year. Based on the required 990 middle school instructional hours per the DOE, if we do not have anymore days, we will be at 1,006 hours met and not need to extend our school year past June 14th. This would still give us a small buffer if anymore delays or snow days should occur. But Amy will keep the board updated as the season progresses.

Friends of MACS Update:

Friends of MACS hosted a fundraiser at Jump On In on February 10th for students in grades K-2. It was a fun filled night and raised almost \$450. The Valentine's Dance was rescheduled due to a storm for Friday, February 17th for students in grades 3-6.

We are currently collecting donations for the annual MACS Auction to be held at the Nashua Country Club on April 7th. Anyone interested in helping procure items or sell program ad space may contact our Auction Chair, Tennille Huxley at tennillehuxley@gmail.com .

The auction will have an early ticket offering that will include passed appetizers and some exclusive auction items only available from 6-7 pm. After 7 pm, there will be a cheaper ticket price that includes dessert only. Details will be sent out to families shortly.

Building Update:

The YMCA Volunteer Group will be at MACS on Friday, February 25th to paint some classrooms. We plan to have them paint Kindergarten and the computer lab during their time here. Amy will be on hand to supervise.

Financial Update:

Our new accountants caught an error in a filing that was missed by KLM. It is the NHCT-2A, which is the NH annual filing with the Charitable Trust Division of the DOJ. However, Nathan Wechsler completed the form. It needed to be mailed by February 15th to meet the filing deadline.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Bottomley, Director