

Grade Level Representatives Notes

Dear ECS Families and Faculty,

We wanted to let you know about a collaborative initiative amongst the school administration and Parent Community of ECS - the Grade Representatives Committee. This committee is comprised of school principals and volunteer representatives from each grade level.

The purpose of the Grade Reps program is to *collect trending concerns and feedback from each grade to share with the administration with an eye toward problem solving when needed*. We welcome your questions and concerns and look forward to addressing them during these monthly meetings. Feedback / notes will be shared through the room parents and can also be found online: <http://ecspco.org/volunteer/grade-representatives/>.

Notes from Wednesday May 2, 2018

Celebrations:

Lower School:

- End of unit celebrations in kindergarten and first grade, first grade myth plays and second grade Ted Talks were amazing! Thank you to all who were able to attend.
- There are baby chicks hatching in 3rd grade Environmental Literacy and Thinking Lab. The students are excited to see the new little chicks and watch them grow!
- Parents of 3rd graders are happy with the transition plans for moving into 4th graders. Specifically, they appreciate the homework and mixed up classes.

Upper School:

- We launched rockets with Mr. Williams and Mr. Horst in 5th grade! Students were able to test, modify and test again through a design and data collection process. The students learned a lot and had fun doing it!
- Our robotics club participated in a national competition in Kentucky with Mr. Stehouwer.
- The backlot is undergoing a beautification project with the help of grant funding. The 7th graders designed the project and are now helping to see it come together.

General:

- Our School Safety Information Session, held in conjunction with building administrators and the PCO, was a success! We look forward to holding another information session in the fall for those families that were unable to join us.

Notes:

Q: Can we get an update on the Lower School Beautification Project from Katie Lockley?

A: We are excited to announce that we will break ground for the playground project this summer! Landscaping will begin on June 18th with our community build day happening Saturday, July 7th. There will be plenty of volunteer opportunities throughout the summer. Check out the Monday Blast for any upcoming information

Q: Are there any updates on the Cobb oven at the Lower School?

A: A Cobb oven update will be coming soon!

Q: Some parents are interested in the national junior honor society. Is this something we can look into at the Upper School?

A: The Upper School administrators are always looking for ways to increase opportunities for our middle school students. We will need to ensure this is an opportunity that fits with our school's mission, vision and equity and diversity initiatives. We will also need to make sure that it is something our students would like to participate in. Stay tuned for more information!

Q: Can you give us any information on how Cross Country might look different next year? The sign up process this spring was challenging for some families and there seems to be a concern over participation.

A: For the Fall of 2018, there will no longer be a participation capacity for Cross Country. There will instead be a deadline to sign students up (with completed paperwork and payment). Final rosters will be complete by the first practice, August 15. Students will also have to participate in a time trial if they are a Novice runner (grades 1-3) in order to complete in the fall season meets. For the Novice runners who cannot make the time trial, they will still be permitted to practice and will have opportunities to retake the time trials throughout the season.

Q: When are students tested for gifted?

A: All students are screened in 3rd grade, but after that parents and teachers can submit a gifted screening request for students who were not screened/tested the previous year.

Q: Are there suggestions for additional parents/stakeholders that may be interested in joining the grade level rep team that could also bring a more diverse perspective to the table?

A: We can work as a leadership team to discuss how to best add members to this team and how to make it accessible to all perspectives.

Q: Can we make it part of the communication during all beginning of the year meet and greet meetings and back to school night etc. that parents read the Monday Blast and Friday Newsletter?

A: Yes, we will put that expectation into future parent meetings to begin each year.