

Lower School Grade Reps Meeting: March 6, 2015

In attendance: Balog, Kelly, McHenry, Ryms, Howell

Grade level updates:

Kindergarten – no parent concerns

1st grade – parents enjoyed the Invention Convention. They especially appreciated sending the commercials on line (*so they could be shared with other family members/friends.*)

Are there any MAPS data *surprises*?

(Most MAPS data is consistent with class performance and teacher feedback. Students receive support, remediation, or enrichment as designated by current performance.)

Concerns about the anti-bullying messaging being understood by younger students. (Lower School tends to push positive messaging – kindness, empathy, safety as an integral aspect of messaging around bullying. We will continue to consider developmentally appropriate methods of getting messages across in a way that is understood and meaningful for all students.)

Was the assembly developmentally appropriate?

Can we also prepare current students for the class dynamic that occurs when a *new* student joins the class?

What about when a student says, “No Name Calling Week is *over!*”

(Need to remind students that our expectations continue past “*the week.*”)

What are *fun lunches* with the counselor?

(They have usually been are friendship/social support groups; however, our substitute counselor is calling *all* students in small groups so that she gets to know them better.)

2nd grade - still have concerns about the movie. They realize they are often related to the curriculum, but teachers can share more information - such as the following:

What is the name of the movie or clip they are watching?

How long is the movie or clip?

What, if any, is the connection to the curriculum?

(Take the choice out of the honey pot?)

3rd grade – still wonder about the movies.

One parent asked was her child being *challenged* enough. Questions about “gifted” instruction.

Because ECS follows the inclusive classroom model, most enrichment/remediation is provided in the differentiated centers. On some rare occasions, students are “pulled out” for support, as needed, at the discretion of the faculty. Mrs. Lendyak-Peters, the gifted coordinator for both buildings, provides resources for teachers and activities for whole class, individual, and small group instruction, as needed.

Do students know they are getting tallies before they have 3 (*or enough for a write up*)?

How does a class earn a “whole-group” punishment? (fire drill behavior)

General:

We are working on cleaning up the *lower level hallway* and the *Lost and Found bin*. (Help would be appreciated with Lost and Found management.)

We are looking for parent support around planning Outdoor Education Day(s) – June 2-4 for grades 1-3.

Susan will work on welcoming new rising 2nd grade families, but she will need contact information. She will also continue to “welcome” new families that come to ECS any time during the year.

New Family Welcome Reception is next Friday morning; kindergarten reps (or anyone else) encouraged to attend.

School board candidates coming to ECS on April 13. Look out for more information, as our presence can make a difference in the election.

Next meeting is Friday, April 10 at 9:00.