



NORTH OAKLAND COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL

1000 42nd Street, Oakland, CA 94608
tel. 510-655-0540, fax 510-655-1222

www.noccs.org

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To: North Oakland Community Charter School Board of Directors

From: Stephen Ajani, Head of School

Staffing Updates

We have made our first hire for 17-18 SY. Natasha Brown will be joining NOCCS to teach 6-8 Math. Ms. Brown will add a wealth of experience to our middle school team. She is already in communication with school leadership to prepare for next year.

Upper School Intern Teacher, Ryan Miller, will teach 6-7-8 Math as a long-term substitute for the remainder of the year. Mr. Miller has been at NOCCS for 3 years. He is familiar with the curriculum and has been shadowing and co-teaching with Lead Teacher, Annette de la Llana. We will also provide Mr. Miller with instructional support from both MathAction and Cori Belew.

We are currently interviewing Middle School Intern Teacher candidates and plan to have the position filled in the next two weeks. The candidate hired for this position will be partnered with Ms. De la Lana to undergo the same training received by Mr. Miller.

Jorge Chavez will be leaving NOCCS in April in order to be with his family in Texas. We are thankful for his service and excited for the adventures that await him as a new father. We are interviewing candidates and plan to onboard our new 4/5 Teacher Intern the week we return from spring break.

Admin team structure

An update for our admin team structure will be presented at the board meeting.

NOCCS 2016-17 Goals

Core Value focus of the year

A caring community of learners: Our school seeks to be a place where teachers, parents, and children create stable, warm, supportive relationships. We believe that the social climate is as important as the academic subjects taught in our classrooms. It is within the safe harbor of caring, compassionate relationships that children and adults are inspired to produce their best work.

Goal #1: School Teacher support and leadership:

Measurable outcomes:

90% of school teachers are satisfied with the amount of support they receive.

90% of school teachers are satisfied with the amount of leadership opportunities provided to staff.

90% of school teachers will report learning or stealing a best practice from someone else on staff this year.

Updates

Teacher Support

The majority of our teacher support has been focused on Mr. Miller's transition into 6-8 math. We are working with Tamar from MathAction to make the best use of Tenmarks, to build up student morale in math, as well as get a better sense of how students are achieving. Mr. Miller is focusing his instructional prep on 6th and 7th grade using Tenmarks lessons and assignments. Tamar has supported the creation of a scope and sequence as well as a weekly routine for 8th grade. The cost to partner with MathAction and the savings from our new math teacher's salary cancel each other out. Students in grades 6-8 are reporting a better overall experience in math since Mr. Miller has taken over.

Instructional Focus Rubrics

This month teachers spent time anchoring the rubrics they created against student work and norming how they would grade work. Teachers graded student work samples using the rubrics and entered scores for students. The next step is for Cori Belew to meet with each teacher and grade level team to look at scores and discuss instructional plans to support student growth moving forward.

SBAC

The school is accounting for the Chromebooks and working to have two complete class sets prepared for SBAC testing beginning May 1. We will have 2 grade-levels testing at the same time in order to move through testing more quickly.

Lehi Dickey and EdTech are updating our roster of students enrolled since October to make sure we have current SSIDs uploaded in CAASPP so students are ready to test.

Training and preparation for the SBAC will happen during PD time starting in April. One session in early April will focus on how to "jazz" students up for testing and another session in late April will be used to prep classrooms and do any last minute logistics.

Progress Reports and Conferences

Upper School teachers have contacted families over the last two weeks to communicate mid-trimester progress for students. Students have had a chance to make-up missing work and submit it to improve their grade.

Progress reports will be sent home to families March 30. Spring conferences will be used to have conversations about each child's progress towards grade-level standards and set goals for trimester 3.

Data Compilation

Cori Belew continues to work with the Ed/Tech committee to identify the data set we want to get from Edtech. Edtech has all of the subfields we are hoping to use to create a better understanding of how subgroups did on the SBAC as well as on in house data collection tools. The next step will be to review the data and create pivot tables to evaluate some of the questions raised in the State of the School around subgroup achievement.

Coaching Team

The coaching team met this week to look over feedback from the ELD professional development series. Overall, teachers were very positive about the specific focus in PD and the skill set they developed through the PD. They also really appreciate the planning time built into PD as well as the opportunity to observe other teachers through the PD process. Teachers have asked for more resources and support around ELD instruction.

The coaching team has time this year for one more PD series. We landed on a Positive Classroom Culture Focus using Marzano's Rubric (Criterion 5) to guide the work. This PD will happen in April.

Goal #2: Create a financially sustainable school model for NOCCS

Measurable Outcomes:

By January 2017, NOCCS will have decided and communicated with staff and families what steps we will be taking to determine the short term financial sustainability of NOCCS for the 2017-18 school year.

By January 2017, NOCCS will have decided and communicated with staff and families the steps we are considering to ensure our financial stability of the next 3 years.

Update

We had approximately 30 parents attend the state of the school address on February 21. While the turnout was lower than we hoped, the feedback we have received has been very positive. We are thinking through ways to increase turnout for the next State of the School in May. Thank you for the feedback during the February board meeting. We found it to be extremely helpful.

Goal #3: Raise Oakland's awareness of NOCCS and build relationships with key stakeholders in Oakland.

Measurable Outcomes:

Log over 10 staff hours of direct student recruitment in Northwest attendance area.

Host 10 key stakeholders by June (school board members, local elected officials, potential funders, etc.)

HoS will log 3 hours a month attending and hosting meetings related to education in Oakland

NOCCS will receive 3 applications for every one open seat

Updates

With 600 over applications for the 17-18 SY we have ended our active recruitment efforts for the year.

This month the Head of School logged 6 hours attending Oakland educational events. This was logged through hosting the Longfellow Community Association meeting and attending the Bay Ed Summit.

This month, Mayor Schaaf presented Oakland's budget at NOCCS(through the Longfellow Community Association). Following the event the Mayor's office invited Stephen Ajani to attend "A NIGHT OF GRATITUDE: HONORING OAKLANDERS MAKING AN IMPACT". This event will take place the evening of March 16. At this event it is Mr. Ajani's hope to continue the conversation regarding NOCCS being in the first cohort of charter schools to participate in the [Oakland Promise](#) pilot. The Oakland Promise is an cradle to career initiative aimed to increase the number of Oakland students graduating from college.

Goal #4: Strengthen School Culture Measurable outcomes:

85% of staff will agree they are part of a "caring community of learners"

85% of parents will be satisfied with the student culture

85% of returning teachers report feeling more supported in the 16-17 SY

Update

No update