

**SKINNER WEST CLASSICAL, FINE ARTS & TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL
LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
May 21, 2019**



VISION: The Mark T. Skinner School's vision is to be the premier elementary School in metropolitan Chicago for educating special children (Special Education, Classical, and Neighborhood), and to serve as the outstanding model for all such schools.

LRE MANDATE: LRE requires that to the maximum extent appropriate students with disabilities, including students in public or private institutions or other care facilities are educated with students who are non-disabled.

I. SCHOOL EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

- A.** Field Trips: Hubbard Street Dance, Camp Edwards, Children's Museum, National Hellenic Museum, West Loop Public Library, Little Village Lawndale H.S. Campus, Pow!, Special Olympics, GoodVets, Palace Grill, First Eagle Bank, Chicago Children's Theater, Whitney Young High School
- B.** Earth Day- Skinner Park Clean Up
- C.** Skinner 2019-2020 Budget Completed
- D.** Ghana Day- Celebration of African Rhythms
- E.** Battle of the Books Competition- 7th Graders
- F.** Special Olympics Opening Games Celebration
- G.** Open House for New Classical Parents
- H.** School Tours Neighborhood Program
- I.** Teacher Appreciation Week
- J.** Classroom Observations
- K.** New Teacher Demo Lessons
- L.** Camp Edwards Overnight Trip- 7th Grade
- M.** School Improvement Committee Meeting

- N. Internet Safety Assembly Grades 4-8
- O. Communication Committee Meeting
- P. NWEA Testing
- Q. Faculty Meetings
- R. Birthday Name in Lights
- S. Debate Practice
- T. Star After School Program
- U. Dance Club
- V. Glee Club
- W. Young Rembrandts Art Program
- X. 4K Karate
- Y. Music House
- Z. Star Theater
- AA. E Newsletter
- BB. Crisis Intervention Team

II. PERSONELL

A. We say goodbye & congratulations to our student teachers from Roosevelt University:

- **Amber Eck- Grade 1, Mrs. Sittner**
- **Melissa Gonzales- Grade 2, Ms. O'Connor**
- **Kristin Ramirez- Grade 3, Mrs. Daigle**
- **Katrina Yager- Grade 3, Mrs. DeJulio**

B. **Teacher Investigation-** We patiently await the results of the investigation from the Office of the Inspector General of allegations brought against one of our teachers.

III. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CIWP

Support Area: Quality Instructional Program

- A. **Ghana Day-** Our 6th graders participated in workshops for preparing percussion music and dances led by our amazing Ghana artists. Our 6th graders performed for our 7th and 8th graders. Many thanks to Ms. Maatouk and Gallery 111 for sponsoring this exhilarating cultural event.
- B. **Battle of the Books-** Bravo to our 7th graders who represented Skinner in our first Battle of the Books competition for CPS. Bravo to our eight 7th graders who participated. One of our Superstars, Mary Y's t-shirt design was selected as the t-shirt that all the students wore for the big competition.

Many thanks to Mrs. Christiansen for coordinating. Some of the books read for the competition were: **A Traitors Game, A Few Red Drops, The Bound, Martian Rising, Length of a String.**

C. NWEA Testing- is underway to assess our students' growth in Reading and Math. K-8 grade students take the test. This test is one of the factors that determine promotion for grades 3, 6, & 8th.

D. Achieve 3000/March Madness Winner- Congratulations to all the classrooms that participated in Achieve 3000 March Madness. Several classrooms completed over 8,446 articles. Congratulations to Mr. Lewandowski's 5th grade class for having the most articles read over 600!

Support Area: Student Centered Learning

A. Special Olympics- Bravo to students in Ms. Mansour & Ms. Wardanian's classes for participating in Special Olympics. We brought home silver, and bronze medals. Many thanks to our teachers and support staff for encouraging our students. Special thanks to our eighth grade mentors, PE teachers Mr. Johnson and Ms. Westy for coordinating the 8th grade mentors for practice, the Olympics send off and our Special Olympics Assembly celebration.

B. Camp Edwards- Our 7th grade annual overnight environmental trip to Camp Edwards in Wisconsin was demanding, challenging, and fun! Many thanks to our parents, 7th grade teachers, and Ms. McSpadden for coordinating.

C. Internet Safety Assembly- Attorney McGovern from the State's Attorney's office presented safety guidelines & information to our 4-8th graders on Friday, May 17th. Key topics: Dangers of sharing personal information, what's deleted is not always deleted, cyber bullying, predators, and sending sexual images & pictures.

D. CPS Crisis Intervention- CPS Support staff visited Skinner last Thursday along with our social worker and school psychologist to speak with students who wanted to talk to them about their feelings regarding removal of one of our teachers while an investigation is underway.

Support Area: School Leadership

A. Principal Clark- Completed & submitted our Skinner School budget for 2019-2020 school year to CPS on April 25th

B. Classical Seats- Dr. Latanya McDade, Chief Education Officer, responded to meet Principal Clark in mid June to discuss demographics & restoring

Classical classes at Skinner. However, there are no plans to add any classes for 2019-2020 school year.

Support Area: Professional Development

J. Chen

Went to the National Chinese Language Conference in San Diego

J. Carlson

Attended a CPS Framework workshop Session 4 on assessments.

Support Area: Parent & Community

- A. Teacher Appreciation Week-** Many thanks to our Forum/PTO & Friends of Skinner West for honoring our teachers and staff last week. We appreciated the candles, supplies, gift cards, continental breakfast, cupcakes, and amazing luncheon.
- B. Dictionary Donation-** Many thanks to The Chicago Rotary Club for donating dictionaries to the entire 3rd grade class. Thanks Mrs. DeJulio for coordinating.
- C. Shoes for Autism –** Many thanks to our Skinner Superstars who have donated shoes to support autism programs & research. The gently used shoe drive ends May 31.
- D. Chicago Impact Funds –** Keisha Johnson from CPS & Principal Clark are planning the next meeting in a few weeks.

IV. FACILITIES/ENGINEER'S REPORT

- We welcome two new custodians from Vargas
- Paschen is still working on completing the Punch List items in the annex

V. LUNCHROOM

VI. BUDGET

- No transfer requests
- 50 desktop computers have been ordered

VII. HANDOUTS

- Internal Accounts Reports for April 2019

VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS

- **8th Graders to Washington, DC May 29-31st**
- **6th Graders to Madison, Wisconsin May 30-31st**
- **Book Fair May 28-June 7th**
- **Bilingual Advisory Committee “Around the World in 80 Dishes”
Cancelled - June 1st**
- **5th Graders to Springfield- June 5th**
- **2nd Grade History Fair- June 6th**
- **Sensory Superstar Fundraiser- June 6th**
- **8th Grade Luncheon- June 7th**
- **STAR Dance Recital- June 7th**
- **8th Grade Graduation- June 14th**
- **KDG Graduation- June 17th**
- **Star Theater- June 18th**
- **6th Grade Send Off – June 18 or 19th**
- **Promotion Walk- June 20th**
- **LSC Meeting- June 25th**