

Blanchard Memorial School
Community Coffee



January 24, 2019

Blanchard Memorial School Cafe

McT Parent Night

- part of school improvement plan goal - parent education night
- Three rotations - workshop model, responsive classroom, arts integration
- High school students watching movie with children for child care
- To share about what McT does, complement school choice information
- We have open house and family events, share regularly about what's happening in the classroom, so we have no current plans to do an event like that

Year end parent survey?

- We have done communication survey in the past, which have been very helpful
- Thinking about survey w feedback from families — maybe do another one at the end of the year to get feedback about Dana, Leigh, school events

6th grade graduation

- Will be the day before the last day at 1:00

Professional learning for staff

- building based and district wide
- We have sought out PL resources that are aligned to school improvement plan and district goals (focused on social emotional learning - responsive classroom, trauma, anxiety, and math - graham fletcher, dreambox)
- Responding to student needs
 - E.g. math pilot, many kids with anxiety
- implementation
 - Teacher autonomy, choice
 - Based on comfort of individual and the extent to which they want to use PL
 - We emphasize student engagement and understanding
- Strategies and frameworks vs prescribed curriculum approach
- Theme for the year - use a strengths based vision, get to know them, help them grow
- We use evaluation/observation process

- So many resources for educators - we have to be targeted
- Grassroots approach

Math

- Working with Tracy Zager
- Moving to interview style assessment - getting to know children
- Personalized approach
- Surveys - staff, students, families
 - Family survey will be coming out in the next *Paw Print*
- Motivation v skills building
- Language heavy math problems
- Working on vertical alignment
- Do kids still take tests? Yes

Kids transferring in?

- usually people moving into Boxborough, some space accommodations for Acton families
- We look at siblings, think strategically about accepting transfers, etc.
- Maximum class size? More like recommended sizes, we try not to go over 24-25
- Physical space is also a consideration

Pathways

- two classrooms, organized by grade level - primary and intermediate

Bus monitor?

- someone new being trained or someone being evaluated
- We don't have bus monitors