

EES PRINCIPAL REPORT for August 4, 2011

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COMMUNICATION

- **2011-12 Student Handbook:** Presented by Dean of Students Erin Milbury
- **Enrollment:** Pre-school -24; Kindergarten-78; First Grade –83; Second Grade – 78; Third Grade –82; Fourth Grade –65; Fifth Grade-82;
Total Enrollment figures as of August 1st – 492.
- **Placement** On July 21 and 22, the school sent out letters to families with the names of next year's teachers. The mailing also went to students of Mrs. Carrie Boelter who will teach grade 1 covering a leave of absence by Heather Darois.
- **New Student Orientation** All newly registered students and their families have been invited to an orientation program to be held August 24th at 9:00 a.m.
- **First Day 2011** First Day is a special program for grades 1-5 that invites families right into the school and into classrooms to help kick off the new year and to make the transition to a new year easier for both student and parent. Notices were sent to parents on the last day of school. News releases and ETV notices are going out this week. T-shirts have been ordered. We are still signing up sponsors. Here is the schedule of events for First Day, September 6:
 - 8:00 Early arrivals visit school cafeteria for refreshments & information fair. Representatives from the PTO, Town Library, Police, School etc are there
 - 8:20 Classrooms are opened for parents and children for opening activities
 - 8:50 Official start of school day. Parents return to information fair in cafeteria
 - 9:00 Brief parent program by staff and local organizations.

STUDENT LEARNING

- **Summer programs**
 - Both Title I and Special Education departments are providing intensive tutoring sessions this summer from July 12 through next Thursday, August 11. Students in grades K-4 who would benefit from extra instruction in reading and math were invited. The program is taught by EES classroom teachers and EES Title I staff. The middle school is offering a special transition program for EES students who are entering grade 6 and who would benefit from additional tutoring in math and reading and from more familiarity with the middle school facilities and programs.
- **Math Improvement Activities This Summer and School Year**
 - **Math in Focus training at EES by the publisher.** On June 27th all EES teachers plus grade 6-7 middle school math teachers attended an overview of the Math in Focus that was conducted by the publishers of the program. The publisher will provide consultants to continue training and coaching throughout the school year.

- **Singapore Math/ Math in Focus training at Worcester University.** EES teachers, Julia Masury, Carole Bilodeau, Susannah Crane, Kerstin Rossel, Lisa Robblee and Matt Cartmill attended a 4 day math seminar at Worcester University. They studied the Singapore math approach which is the basis for the new Math in Focus series. The seminar was led by Professor Richard Bisk, who helped write the Math in Focus textbook. The next week, grade 5 teacher Kristen True and Eunice Taylor, the EES math consultant, attended a 3-day math seminar on the same topics that was conducted by the original of the Singapore Math curriculum that is the basis of Math in Focus.
- **August Curriculum planning sessions** Lyn Healy and Eunice Taylor will meet with grade level teams later this month to help them revise their curriculum plans to incorporate the new math program.

COLLABORATIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE CULTURE

- **SINI plan for 2011-12.** EES made Adequate Yearly Progress in the 2010 NECAP for math, so the school remains in Year One as a School In Need of Improvement Under federal and state regulations, it takes two years in a row of making AYP for a school to remove its SINI designation. The Epping Elementary 2011-12 SINI plan will include the following:
 - Implement of the new Math in Focus program. Grades K-1-2 will implement the program in September. Grades 3-4-5 will implement after the grade completes NECAP testing.
 - Continue the weekly team math meetings..
 - Provide extra tutoring before and after school to students with educational disabilities and economic disadvantages.
 - Provide extra tutoring to grade 1 students as needed.
 - Conduct weekly classroom computer lab time in math for grades 1 and 2.
 - Provide any at-risk students access to computer program Successmaker
 - Continue to develop and use formative and summative assessments to monitor progress during the school year.
 - Continue to monitor student progress using assessment data
 - Include more non-fiction writing throughout K-5

TECHNOLOGY/FACILITIES

- **21st century classrooms** The District Technology Committee was scheduled to meet August 4 at 4:30. At minimum EES plans to distribute at least 5 carts which include a laptop, projector and document camera for use during the school year. Each team from grades 1-5 will share one cart. The school also received a portable interactive ENO whiteboard that was donated by the EES PTO. The board will be used for teacher training and student instruction. The EES Technology Committee will hold the first staff training session September 14.
- **Technology position.** There were very few qualified applicants for this 40 % position. Interviews are scheduled for Wednesday, August 3.

- **Summer Maintenance.** Thanks to all the crew in facilities for their very diligent work on maintenance this summer. The floors have been cleaned and waxed. Walking paths were paved and teacher requests for repairs getting completed. The building is getting a new coat of stucco and repair around the light shafts built into the roof. All this work is being done while the school has the summer recreation, Title I and special education programs operating in the building this summer.

OTHER

- **Shifting enrollments lead to shifts in teachers**
 - This fall Kerstin Rossel moves to grade 3 and Liz Feld to grade 5 as grade level enrollments shift. Mrs. Rossel has experience as grade 4 teacher and was willing to make the change. Mrs. Feld had previously made the shift from four to five and was also willing to make the change. Below shows the change in numbers and class sizes:

	2010-11	2011-12
Grade 2	5 teachers, 83 students	4 teachers, 78 students
Grade 3	3 teachers, 66 students	4 teachers, 82 students
Grade 4	4 teachers, 86 students	3 teachers, 65 students
Grade 5	3 teachers, 64 students	4 teachers, 82 students

Calendar

August 10	New teacher orientation
August 11	Last day of summer classes
August 15-16	Grade 3 training in Fountas and Pinnell reading assessment Math curriculum planning sessions by teams
August 23	Math curriculum planning sessions by teams
August 24	New student orientation at EES
August 29	First PTO meeting of 2011-12 year
August 30	Staff returns for first official day 2011-12 school year.
August 31	Full day of Math in Focus training for K-5
September 1	Teacher Planning day plus staff pictures Advisory Council mtg
September 6	First Day of School
September 7	Kindergarten orientation
September 8	First Day of Kindergarten Faculty Meeting
September 13	Student picture day at both EES and Pre-school Math Improvement Committee Meeting
September 14	EES Technology Committee Meeting
September 15	Faculty Forum
September 16	US Constitution Day PTO Fundraiser Kickoff (Drive runs through October 4)
September 19	Literacy Committee meeting
September 22	Faculty Meeting
September 27	Open House Grades 3-5
September 28	Open House Grades K-2
September 30	District professional development day. No school for students EES conducts NECAP preparation as highest priority PD