



Executive Director's Report

Susan Domenighini

February 16, 2021

Favorite Moments

Covering for Susan Whittelsey reading to Kindergarteners.

Appreciation from students

"At the end of the day, one of my kiddos says that they're being picked up from "educational prison". It makes me laugh every time."

"Just finished speaking with a student who wrote an email to Susan asking to be class president. "

I was telling a student I was worried about them not getting their work done because that's part of my job. The student said, "Your job is not to worry. Your job is to be happy!"

Fairytales

I was able to meet directly with Ryan Sanders on January 12th. Alicia was not able to come. We reviewed his concerns about Fairytales. We agreed that fairytales themselves are not the issue but when a character that is represented as good authorizes or contributes to violent or evil behavior these fairytales should not be used. I shared that we will continue to address uncomfortable and difficult issues through fairytales and throughout the curriculum. Our purpose is not to shelter children from the world but to use a safe environment to help them look a difficult situation in the eye and overcome it.

I brought this to the Pedagogical Team and they were satisfied with that assessment.

Ryan agreed to help by supplying the school with more material. I suggested that the first-grade teacher hold a classroom meeting to discuss the use of fairy tales and their importance to the internal growth of children.

Sadlier Material

Equity and Anti-Racism

I met with Alicia Sanders on January 26th to address the concerns she brought up during the last board meeting. I reviewed the Sadlier material and where we are with Equity and

Anti-Racism. After the discussion and the concerns expressed at the board meeting I asked the parents on the Taskforce for their understanding while staff met this month and next to establish priorities and plans for the support and changes they are engaging in. I attended two sessions of the Butte County Coalition for Equity in Education and met with Mharia Ross-Wollcot a founding member of that group concerning paths to equity and diversity within Butte County schools.

Faculty and Staff have been invited to:

- 1) a series of free to members Alliance for Public Waldorf webinars Reimagining Waldorf Pedagogy: Nurturing Social Renewal Through Education for Racial Justice
- 2) an online conference Equity in Action by ASCD, available for \$49 per attendee

All are taped for convenience.

COVID

We developed a plan for a split classroom model for two on-site classes to increase the number of students we could get on campus. This didn't work, but because the requirements have dropped to four feet we are still able to accommodate those that are on site.

We have had some rainy days, students are outside under the eaves for approximately 10 minutes for a snack break. It seems to be working.

Schools are beginning to look toward next year. I will speak more about that in the meeting.

Charter Renewal

I am attending a series from the Charter Schools Association on preparing for renewal. Chairun Combs attended with me this month. The training was on data. Yes, it's time to get ready!

Chico Unified Board Agenda

Blue Oak has put in a card to speak briefly at the next Chico Unified Board Agenda during public comments. I will welcome the new board and speak briefly about the school.

Breakthrough Coach

Thank you to the board for approving Alex and me to attend Breakthrough Coach. We are streamlining our work and accountability systems. I am in classrooms or on Zoom one to two days a week and loving it!