

Dear Families and Guardians,

I am writing to let you know that we had a fantastic school year from beginning to end. We observed lots of growth from our students in a number of areas. Our overall number of behavior referrals decreased from 321 in 2015-2016, to 229 in 2016-2017, to 163 this school year. Our students have stepped up and really grown over the past few years. We have put in place consistent school-wide expectations that the students understand and are accountable to.

Another area that we are extremely proud of is how our students rated their relationships with our staff. The survey results were higher than the district average for the first time in many years. This means that our students are feeling like they have better relationships with their teachers. This undoubtedly helps students to be more engaged at school and learn at higher levels. According to many research studies, one of the highest factors that impact student growth is their teachers believing in them.

I can't release our specific MCA results for this year, I was VERY pleased with them. Our staff worked extremely hard to prepare students to achieve at high levels. The students once again met the challenge. Our overall student growth in both math and reading exceeded the goals that we set at the beginning of this school year. The turnaround was pretty miraculous and I am sure that you will be pleased once the results can be shared later this summer.

I don't anticipate many changes next school year. We are bringing a 15-minute Advisory back to grades 6-8 to start the day. We are looking at making some changes to our cell phone policy as well. There were many challenges with our policy and we are looking to make some changes. If you are interested in joining a committee to look at the policy, please let me know within the next few weeks. I don't have dates set at this time, but I will certainly let you know once they are set.

We will continue with our between class grouping model for next school year. As you are well aware, we used a District supported grouping model in the areas of reading and math this school year. I am excited that we tried something different and based on our results in many areas, it seems to have worked.

I am thrilled to announce that the staff from this year will remain in place as well. At the present time, we are losing 3 staff members. I would like to let you know that Ms. Rodriguez (3-5 ASD teacher), Ms. Frandsen (3-5 ASD special education assistant), and Ms. Knuttila (Literacy specialist/sixth grade social studies) won't be returning to Keewaydin. They all will be missed.

There were many great things that happened at Keewaydin this year. We sincerely appreciate your continued partnership and the important role that families play in making Keewaydin a great learning environment for all students. Our entire Keewaydin staff looks forward to building on all of these amazing successes next school year. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

La Shawn Ray
LNCS-Keewaydin Principal

Dear Families and Guardians,

I am sitting at my desk writing this letter and the first thing that comes to mind is-What an awesome year! The students, staff, and families have done a wonderful job and I am very proud to be a part of the great things going on at Wenonah.

We started the year with 5 goals we were striving to achieve and I am pleased to say that we have seen great rewards for our labor.

- Goal 1 was to increase Reading proficiency by 5% from fall to spring as measured by the FAST assessment. We increased by 7%, from 60-67%.
- Goal 2 was to increase Math proficiency by 5%. We increased by 16%, from 59% in the fall to 75% this spring.
- Goal 3 was to increase reading scores for African American students by 10%. Reading scores increased by 4%, from 28%-32%. This is a goal we will continue to work on.
- Goal 4 was to decrease behavior referrals between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Our referrals during that time of day decreased from 64% last year to 25% this year.
- Goal 5 was to increase the number of African American students attending school 95% of the time from 50% to 60%. We did increase from 50% to 55% but there is room for improvement.

We have two staffing changes this year. Our long time Kindergarten teacher Kristie Rossow is leaving Wenonah and we want to wish her the very best in her new city. She will be missed. And Kirsten Tangen who job shared with Mrs. Rossow is also leaving to raise her first baby. We wish her the best and thank her for serving our students. Mrs. Brittany Fisher will be joining our Kindergarten team and we are very excited to bring her into the Wenonah family.

We currently have at least one teacher in every grade who has the Advanced Learner certification and we will continue to cluster students accordingly.

This year culminates my third year at Wenonah and it just seems to get better every year. The students and families make this a wonderful school and I am honored to serve you and I look forward to a fabulous year 4. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Kelly Wright

LNCS-Wenonah Principal