

Support Services Quarterly Newsletter

October 2016



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Thoughts from Anthony

Colleagues,

Welcome to our inaugural issue of the Support Services Quarterly Newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to inform and highlight some of great work being done by Support Services Employees. As many of you have heard me say, our job in Support Services is to create and maintain the very best

teaching and learning environments for staff and students with a keen focus on delivering superior customer service. Let's continue to do our part to "accelerate learning for every APS student every day." Have a great second quarter.



News from Around the Division

Security

Proxy card and alarm codes can now be requested using the form on the security site: <http://security.aurorak12.org/about-aps-security/alarm-codes-and-proxy-access/>

Maintenance and Operations

In October, The Energy Team will be accepting a Colorado Environmental Leadership Award in October on behalf of APS from the Department of Public Health and Environment.

Elkhart Elementary was recently recognized among all APS schools enrolled as a top performer (top 1% of 6,000 participating buildings nationwide) in the 2015 EPA Energy Star Battle of the Buildings energy reduction competition.

Through school participation in the Green Stars Incentive Program and aided with guidance delivered in the comprehensive Green Stars digital badging playbook, the Natural and Renewable Resources Team has gained direct involvement from over 500 students of whom have collectively accumulated 380 digital badges. (That's nearly 5% of the badges issued in all of the 2015/16 school year!)

Building interest in the Green Stars Incentive Program has led to the passing of voluntarily adopted policies at three high schools (Aurora West, Central and Hinkley) prohibiting the use of mini-fridges and microwaves in classrooms.



Along with approximately 20 other school

districts nationwide, APS will soon be partnering U.S. Department of Energy in their 2023 Better Building Challenge, which will serve as national platform from which to showcase APS's efforts to

meet a 10-year commitment to reduce school energy use by 20%.

Aurora West students spearheading a partnership with We Don't Waste, a Denver food reuse non-profit, have donated over 50,000 servings of food delivered to Denver metro-based centers serving the community's homeless and indigent. Additionally, daily composting of food waste is underway at five schools and transitioning to three more in coming months.

The Custodial Operations team makes it a priority to ensure all custodial staff are trained to be successful in their jobs. Each of our district's custodians have attended Custodial 101 and all those newly hired are required to attend upon employment. In this class they not only learn the procedural methods of efficient cleaning; they are also taught a wide range of topics such as how to deal with upset parents, professional communication and the art of being proactive in the school environment. Additionally, the department offers a Leadership Academy for current head custodians and those whom are interested in advancing to leadership positions. The academy consists of three modules lasting four hours each. In these modules participants are taught computer skills, how to document and keep good records, proper emailing, dealing with difficult people, leadership styles, organization for success, safety and interview skills. Since these classes were implemented in October, 2014 the department has seen improvements in professionalism, job knowledge and efficiencies that have had a positive impact on student achievement.

Planning

The Planning Department has received a \$100,000 grant from Target to build five community school gardens.



Shout Out

Information Technology

Post Workforce Readiness really does work. Moises Simental joined the Information Technology team in January 2011 as an unpaid intern and progressed the following summer to a part time student worker. Moises continued supporting APS students at the same time as he pursued a college degree. We welcomed Moises as a full time APS employee this summer and he will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Information Systems in December 2016.

Maintenance and Operations

Rick Barber by day is a plumber at Maintenance and Operations. However, on a job at Virginia Court, he observed a student leaving on his bicycle having trouble with the chain. Rick quickly stopped to help the student by removing the back tire, repairing the chain and installing it back on the bicycle so the



student could continue his bike ride home safely.

Area Coordinator, Luis Arroyo, and his son, Alex Arroyo support and maintain a 55-gallon fish tank for Clyde Miller students. Students, staff and visitors are enjoying the vibrant colors of the plants and fish, but mostly its Sponge Bob's pineapple house they like most! Luis and Alex maintain the habitat of the aquarium during their free time to make sure students and staff have uninterrupted enjoyment.



Quarterly Award Winners were Annette McGhee and Russell Jensen from Maintenance and Operations, Jill Griffith at ESC 4 and Laura Huxley at Side Creek from Custodial Operations.

Transportation

When one of our contractors (Alpha Paratransit) was involved in an accident with one of our kiddo's, we, as a team, were able to quickly ascertain the location of the accident, those involved and the status of the driver and student and report this to the COO and Risk Management. The student is fine and safe as well as the driver (not at fault). Thank you to Sharon Garbett for her reporting of the accident with attention to detail and Marisela Navarro for utilizing APT's software to quickly identify the vehicle, driver's name and who the student was. Excellent job!!

Congratulations to the following drivers who had PERFECT attendance for the first quarter of the 2016-17 school-year!!!

Cheryl Bell	Travis Brown	Victoria Bryan	Jack Chesser	Steve Combest
Doug Currier	Aaron Doyle	Robert Duggan	Vern Gaddy	Sharon Garbett
Girma Gebrekidan	Fred George	Contardo Gonzalez	Robert Griesemer	Don Hansen
Catherine Hitchcock	Bryce Hubble	Malissa Hubble	Windy Ingbreton	Melford James
Jake Johnson	Patsy Johnson	Becky Lenard	Maria Macias de Villalobos	Terri Maniscalco
Roberto Manriquez	Sid Martinez	Brian Masotta	John Mode	Pascal Ndekezi
Greg Reil	Martha Reyes	Ronica Reilly	Tanya Rupp	Bill Rush
Ganga Sapkota	Danny Susanto	Karen Taylor	Lynn Terrones-Aguilar	Latrenda Thomas
Lenton Thomas	Todd Trembley	Kathy Walkinshaw	Linda Woolfolk	LouElla Wright
Deb Zediker				

Congratulations to the following paraeducators who had PERFECT attendance for the first quarter of the 2016-17 school-year!!!

Norell Brooks	Margaret Cohen	Susana Flores	Diane Golonka	Marianne Harris
John Herman	Ruth Hitchcock	Pat Maxey-Lander	Mary Pehan	Tamar Rowlette
Harry Seehusen				

APS 2020 VISION

Every student shapes a successful future.

MISSION

In partnership with our community, we accelerate learning for all students to develop the knowledge, skills and character necessary to shape successful futures.

