Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning
25 Years and Counting!

Executive Director Summer Communication

June 13, 2019

Communication Summary

1. BEST Grant Construction Update
2. Director of Lower / Intermediate School
3. Staff Transitions
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Dear RMSEL Parent Community,

I hope that the transition to summer for your children and families has already been filled with many exciting adventures. The office staff and administrative team have been at the office diligently working to prepare for the start of an amazing 2019 – 2020 school year. As a part of this transition, we have been working closely with our Owner Representative at NV5 to begin the planning and construction of our full-scale campus-wide renovation. The first step in this process is a public bidding process through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). We will be hiring an architecture and general contracting firm to take on the design and construction of the project; this will be publicly posted on our website and through BEST accordingly. This process should conclude prior to August 1, 2019. The teams will work together for a period of approximately 8 months to design and engineer all aspects of our project. We will be slated for construction staging to begin May 1, 2020, and break ground at the conclusion of next year. Our grand opening for our addition and renovations is slated to be September 1, 2021. I will keep the community informed throughout this process.

Director of Lower / Intermediate School (K-6)

We are excited to announce that Brooke Fergon will transition to the administrative team for the 2019 – 2020 school year as the Director of Lower/ Intermediate School (K-6). Brooke has previously taught 6th grade Mathematics & Science at RMSEL for the past two years. Prior to her teaching experience she received her Colorado Principal License and worked in the Douglas County School District at a charter school. We had a talented pool of applicants for this position and look forward to working alongside Brooke in her new position. Marci Elder will work collaboratively with Brooke as the Director of Secondary School (7-12). Marci and Brooke will oversee staff and students and work with the parent community in their respective school levels next year. With this transition, instructional coaches Brittany Sundgren and John Stene will design, lead, and implement professional learning for our school next year.

Staff Transitions

Over the past two weeks we have been notified of unexpected transitions on our team. Auston Brecht will be transitioning to his alma mater at Rangeview High School, where he will have the opportunity to coach competitively and lead the school student council. Wendy Chadwick will be transitioning to a K-3 special education program at Ellis Elementary. Wendy was a special education teacher prior to her classroom experience at RMSEL. Finally, Jessica Dworkin will be transitioning to the Cherry Creek School District where she will have the opportunity to teach second grade. While we will miss these team members, we wish them the best in their future endeavors.
**Mackenzie Harper**

Mackenzie will be joining our staff as the 6th grade Mathematics and Science Crew Leader. Mackenzie has been a teacher and instructional coach since 2016 at Highlands Ranch STEM. Prior to her experience at STEM, Mackenzie was fortunate to conduct her teacher practicum at EL Schools in Durango while attending Fort Lewis. While she has been an outstanding and accomplished STEM teacher, she sees the opportunity to connect the work of expeditionary learning to enrich technology in the field of Mathematics and Science.

**Rhemy Brezin**

Rhemy was a 2015 graduate of the Stanley British Primary Teacher Preparation Program targeted at developing elementary school teachers. Since then, Rhemy has taught at Graland Country Day School in the Kindergarten and Second Grade. Rhemy is Orton Gillingham certified, as well as trained in Responsive Classroom techniques. Rhemy will be joining our team in Kindergarten for next year to work with the same group of students for two consecutive years. She is extremely excited to assist our students in expanding their curiosity and learning course content through expeditions!

**High School Next Steps**

Based on Auston’s transition, we are going to implement a few changes in support of the high school community for next year. We will share a detailed communication with high school students and families outlining these exciting opportunities.

I wish every one a great summer and we will be in communication once our final hire in first grade has been confirmed.

Sincerely,

Chad