



# COMMUNITY SCHOOL

A CHOICE SCHOOL IN THE LAKE WASHINGTON  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

# COMMUNITY SCHOOL STAFF

## Teaching Staff

Veronique Hageman - 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Marissa Nall- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Maddie Kerr - 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Erin Haley – Special Education Teacher

Beth Sigall- Para Educator

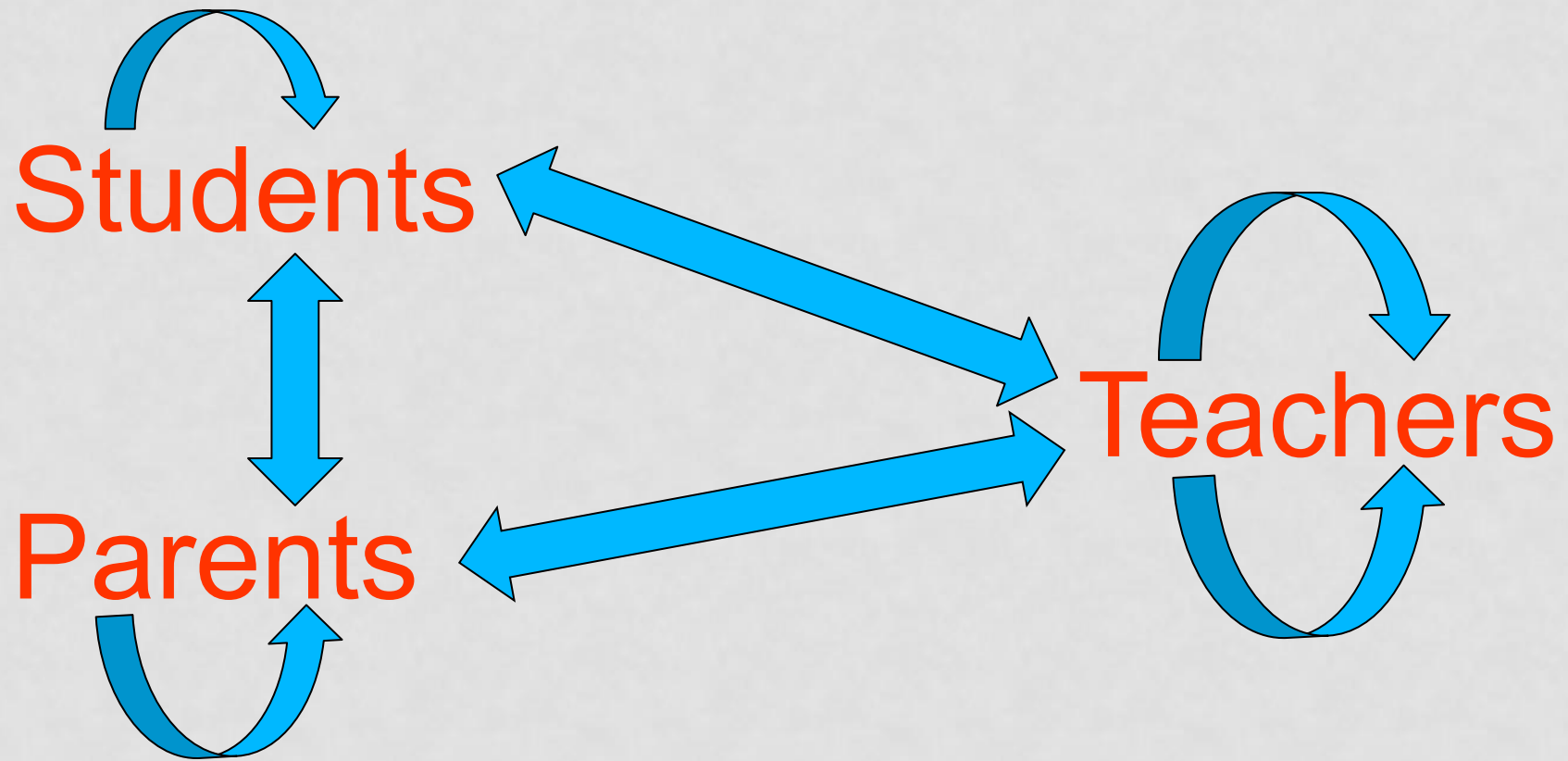
Jean Guth - Instructional Assistant

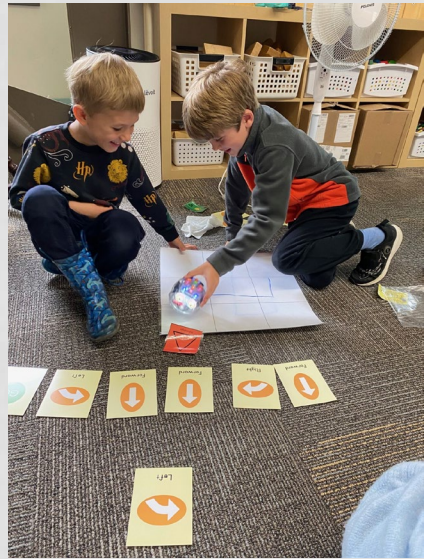
Office Manager Deb Subotnik

Principal Jacob Hendrickson

Associate Principal Michael O'Donnell

Challenge children academically, physically, creatively, socially & emotionally in an **atmosphere of cooperation and trust** .





# Community School

## Construct 1:

### *Children Learn by Doing*

This applies to:

#### **Making decisions**

We do this by consensus (no voting).

#### • **Taking responsibility**

We provide opportunities to gain responsibility through student self-reflections, group work, all-school events, and multi-aged interactions.

#### • **Engaging in critical thinking**

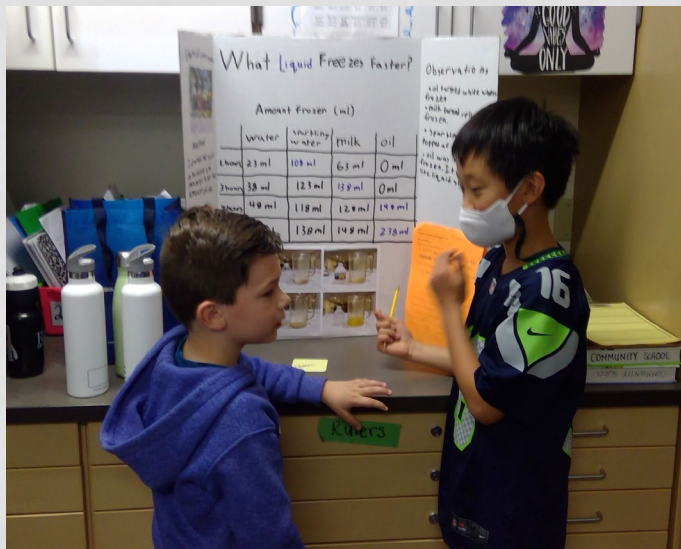
We encourage this with inquiry-based academics.

#### • **Solving problems (intellectual and interpersonal)**

We teach appreciation for different points of view.

# Community School Construct 2:

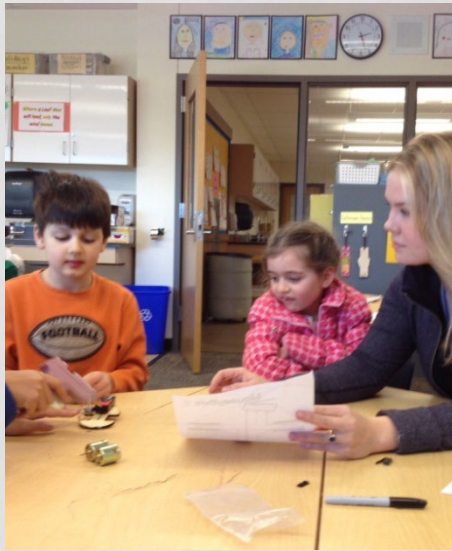
**Children learn best when their abilities are challenged, internal motivation is increased, and their interest and learning style is taken into account.**



Students are expected to put forth their best efforts to achieve their potential (socially, emotionally, and academically).

# Community School Construct 3:

**The community supports the teachers** in their professional judgment as to the best strategies to meet the **needs of each individual child** as well as **the whole class.**



*Curriculum  
planning and  
implementation  
is the teachers'  
domain.*

*This includes, but is not limited to: class configurations, designing mixed-age partnerships and peer working groups, camp cabin assignments, field trip chaperone assignments, student discipline, and classroom management.*





## Community School Construct 4:

Children learn best  
in a **supportive, cooperative environment.**

Community School's supportive and cooperative learning environment is paramount to our students' success.

**This vital standard is upheld by diligently choosing non-competitive means of assessment, play, and academic learning.**

**No report cards... No comparisons... No winners or losers...**

**Mutual trust and strong relationships** with teachers and peers **fosters confidence and a sense of responsibility** in our students.





# Community School

## Construct 5:

Children learn best in an atmosphere where their **process**, and not merely the end result, is **acknowledged**, and **mistakes are recognized** as a natural part of the learning process.



# Community School

## Construct 6:

### Opportunities for interaction between students of all ages

lead to integration of learning, increased ability in social skills, problem-solving skills and decision-making skills.



# Community School Construct 7:

Children learn best in an atmosphere that acknowledges and integrates their social, emotional, cognitive and physical development.



We **take time** for: playing together, sharing stories, imparting knowledge, discussing issues and resolving conflicts .



## Community School Construct 8:

Children learn best when they **feel good about themselves**, and **feel empowered** socially, emotionally and academically.



***Community School  
students are not  
judged, graded, or  
compared to each other.***



## **Community School Construct 9:**

Children learn more readily when their **home environment is philosophically compatible** with the educational framework of their learning.

**Parents/guardians choose, value and support the student-centered learning that children embark upon daily, even though it may be different from the way that parents/guardians were taught.**

# Community School Construct 10:

**Children learn best when parents work cooperatively with teachers and are actively and visibly involved in their child's social and academic development.**



# **PARENTS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE AT COMMUNITY SCHOOL:**

- **working cooperatively with teachers**
  - **providing enriching experiences**
  - **promoting the love of learning**

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

- Help supervise students on the **playground** during morning break time and at the lunch hour.
  - (Average 11.5 hours per family/year)
- Chaperone a **field trip** (at least one per family)
- Additional opportunities:
  - ❖ Attend camp(s)
  - ❖ Help in the classroom upon teacher request
  - ❖ Lead and plan parties
  - ❖ Lead and assist with Choice Activities
  - ❖ Be a guest reader for our Read-A-Thons
  - ❖ Lead and assist with Art Lessons
  - ❖ Lead and assist with STEAM Lessons



# **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL DAY**

- Committee Work:

Steering, Finance, Volunteer Coordinator, Fundraising,  
Community Building, etc.

- Work Parties

- Maintain Garden

- Building and Site Improvements

- Classroom Material Prep

# Community School Construct 11:

Children learn best when their **horizons are broadened by exposure to the interests and styles of many people**, including other children, teachers, parents and the community-at-large.



*Field trips, parents and community volunteers, camps, and Parent Choice.*

# Children who prosper at Community School:

- **Enjoy interacting with children of all ages**
- **Set goals for their growth**
- **Work toward personal responsibility**
- **Thrive without competition or external rewards**
- **Show pride in their work due to their efforts and internal motivation, not due to external validation or rewards**
- **Follow our “golden rule”: No hurting on the inside or outside.**

# **IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS**



# TRANSPORTATION CONSIDERATIONS



Parents need to provide transportation to and from Community School.

**No busing** is provided by the Lake Washington School District.

We encourage **carpools**.

# SCHOOL HOURS

M, T, TH, F: 8:40 AM– 3:10 PM

WEDNESDAY: 8:40AM – 1:40PM

Drop off no earlier than **8:30 AM.**

Pick up at **3:10 PM** (Wednesdays @ **1:40PM**)

There is **no supervision prior to 8:30 am** or  
**after we dismiss at 3:10 pm or 1:40 pm.**

Community School does not provide before or after school  
care.

# CONSIDERATIONS RELATED TO OUR MULTI-AGE CLASSROOMS

Our program is 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.  
*A full five-year commitment is expected.*

**Lake Washington School District curricula are taught in our multi-age classrooms.**

- **Science and Social Studies:** LWSD curricula are taught on a rotational basis, so all students are exposed to all the subject matter over the course of their five-year-long attendance at C.S.
- **Mathematics, Reading, Writing:** Common Core State Standards are incorporated into our multi-year academic planning.

# **TEACHER ASSESSMENT TOOLS**

## **ASSESSMENT IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLANNING APPROPRIATE LEARNING EXPERIENCES**

- Student growth will be measured using:
  - Fastbridge Assessment in Reading &  
Math(3x/year)
  - LWSD CDSAs for Math, Science, SS, and ELA  
SBA
  - Illustrative Math Assessments
  - Teacher Observation
  - Student Reflections
  - Goal Setting



# **SUPPORT SYSTEM**

## ***WHEN A CHILD NEEDS HELP***

- If a child's teacher is concerned about any area of a child's development (academic, social, emotional, physical), the teacher will arrange a meeting with parents to discuss the concern.
- Special education services are available for students at Community School. Placement for all students with IEPs is determined by the individual student's IEP team.

# **MONTHLY PARENT MEETING**

**This is your opportunity to become informed and involved in decision making.**

**Hear teacher announcements and updates.**

**Volunteer to help with ongoing events.**

**\*Attendance is strongly recommended and is an integral part of the Community School culture.**

# Parents at Community School:

- Participate actively and visibly
- Promote cooperation & non-competitiveness
- Attend monthly parent meetings
- Support staff, students, and each other.

# Important Lottery Information

- Online applications open at 9:00 am November 1, 2023\
  - Current LWSD families can access application through Parent Square
  - Families not currently enrolled in LWSD can access application through LWSD website.
- Application DUE by 11:59pm December 1, 2023
- Lottery takes places on January 5, 2024
- Notification sent to families on January 12, 2024
- Acceptance deadline is January 26, 2024