

# **Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School**

**Principal/Executive Director Report  
March 20, 2012**

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# Overview

- Accountability & Compliance
- Finance
- Personnel
- Operations
- Fund Development

# Accountability & Compliance

- Academics
  - *Elementary Campus: Academic Progress Update*
  - *Middle Campus: Academic Progress Update*
  - *Common Core Standards*
  - *Dyslexia Conference*
- Discipline Policy Implementation
  - *Student Term 2 Behavior Data*
  - *Elementary Campus Mentors*

# Accountability & Compliance

## *EC Academic Progress Update*

- Students in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades took the Benchmark II Assessment the week of February 20<sup>th</sup>
- 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders took the core tests of the ITBS the week of March 12<sup>th</sup>
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are in the process of taking the STAR assessment in reading and math

# Accountability & Compliance

## *EC Academic Progress Update*

- Current data shows that students in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades continue to demonstrate overall improvement and growth in reading and math through the academic assistance program

# Accountability & Compliance

## *MC Academic Progress Update*

- Near end of term 2, all students took third administration of STAR math and reading tests
- These tests provide a snapshot of student performance in foundational math and reading skills at each grade level
- Individual student data over past three administrations shows most students trending upwards and making progress and overall number of students in “urgent intervention” category has dropped

# Accountability & Compliance

## *MC Academic Progress Update*

- Using STAR test results, class performance, and last year's CRCT results, teachers identified certain students for additional support in advance of this spring's CRCT
- These students taking part in twice-weekly afterschool tutorial sessions with teachers for 8 weeks leading up to CRCT

# Accountability & Compliance

## *Common Core Standards*

- Common Core Standards (CCS) developed nationally last year and modified into Georgia curriculum standards in K-12 English Language Arts and Math last summer
- CCS will be expected to be used in K-12 curriculum planning in 2012-13 school year and reflected on common state assessments in 2014-15 school year
- ANCS will work to refine the school's learning expectations for each grade level that reflect the Georgia CCS in the context of our approach to teaching and learning



# Accountability & Compliance

## *Dyslexia Conference*

- Teachers and staff from both campuses, along with special needs committee co-chair Lisa Roberson attended the Georgia Branch of the International Dyslexia Association's conference on February 25<sup>th</sup>
- Participation was funded through a PTCA mini grant and ANCS professional development funds
- Teachers are planning to share what they learned with others at an upcoming faculty meeting

# Accountability & Compliance

## *Term 2 Student Behavior Data*

- Term 2 student behavior data tracks classroom/ advisor and principal/dean of students referrals
- First full academic term of tracking referral data at elementary campus
- Click here for [term 2 student behavior data](#)

# Accountability & Compliance

## *Elementary Campus Mentors*

- 5<sup>th</sup> graders are now “Morning Meeting Mentors”
- Each day 5<sup>th</sup> graders are sitting with younger classes and on the stage to be role models for the rest of the school
- They are modeling appropriate behavior during morning meeting
- It has been a tremendous hit for our all our students!

# Finance

- Information Updates
  - *FY12 Budget Update*
  - *Health Benefits Costs*
  - *FY13 Budget Process Update*

# Finance

## *FY12 Budget Update*

- Recent communication from state DOE indicated that state health benefit premiums remain deducted from *all* charter schools' state funding allocations despite that fact that many charter schools (including ANCS) do not participate in the program
- The state budget and finance office is working with the DOE and local districts to resolve the issue which will result in additional state funding being directed back to charter schools, including ANCS
- This additional funding is *not* projected in the YTD budget update: [ANCS FY12 Budget Update as of 2/29/12](#)

# Finance

## *Health Benefits Costs*

- Given increasing health benefits costs, finance committee has been reviewing different options for each of the following to better control costs for the school and its employees:
  - *Benefits plans*
  - *Benefits providers*
  - *Benefits package structure*
- Survey of faculty and staff is underway to gather input on various issues related to each of areas above

# Finance

## *Health Benefits Costs*

- Finance committee recommendations will be presented to school employees in the next few weeks for review and discussion
- Recommendations will be factored into tentative FY13 budget to be presented to board in April with any proposed health benefits changes to take effective in August 2012

# Finance

## *FY13 Budget Process Update*

- The process of developing the FY13 budget has begun:
  - Faculty and staff provided initial input on any projected expense increases/decreases for next year
  - Met with APS CFO to discuss district and state funding projections
  - Finance committee reviewed major budget assumptions regarding student enrollment (revenue) and salary/benefits (expenses)



# Finance

## *FY13 Budget Process Update*

- State QBE funding is projected to increase slightly next year while local property tax revenues projections range from -2.5% to no change from last year
- Therefore, initial revenue projections are virtually flat for FY13 at this point
- APS budget commission meeting included discussion of APS salaries, and the district expects to continue its salary freeze with no cost of living adjustment, meaning salaries have been at same level since 2008

# Finance

## *FY13 Budget Process Update*

- Remaining steps in the development of FY13 budget include:
  - *Finance committee reviews tentative FY13 budget at March 28 meeting*
  - *Update to full K-8 faculty and staff on March 28*
  - *Finance committee edits tentative FY13 budget at April 12 meeting*
  - *Presentation of tentative FY13 budget at April 17 board work session*
  - *Finance committee edits tentative FY13 budget based on board feedback at May 10 meeting*
  - *Adoption of FY13 budget at May 15 board meeting*

# Personnel

- Information Updates

- *K-8 Dean of Students*
- *Employee Development, Evaluation, & Compensation Taskforce*
- *New Teacher Residency Project*
- *Faculty & Staff Annual Survey*

# Personnel

## *K-8 Dean of Students*

- Position posted across country prior to winter break
- Over 70 applications for position received
- First round phone interviews of 16 candidates conducted by school and board leadership
- Second round of school visits and in-person interviews of top 7 candidates by interview team
- Final round candidates invited for opportunity to meet with students, faculty, and parents from both campuses
- Recommended candidate to be brought to board during executive session

# Personnel

## *Employee Development, Evaluation, and Compensation Taskforce*

- Following board presentation in February, taskforce reviewed board feedback and is recommending a few small revisions to development and evaluation components of proposed policy
- Taskforce will present these proposed revisions to the full K-8 faculty and staff for discussion and then provide to board for review and possible adoption at May board meeting
- Taskforce recommends further review and development of any proposed compensation policy changes continue and come before board *next* school year

# Personnel

## *New Teacher Residency Project*

- Lara Zelski and Matt Underwood working with team from Georgia State University on initial implementation of NTRP following grant award from the state of Georgia
- Budget and state contract: Finalizing budget revisions and will soon receive contract from the state which will then require board approval
- Project Director: Interviews will soon begin for NTRP Project Director position with goal of bringing contract for position and recommended candidate to board in April and for project director to begin work at end of April
- Year two residents: NTRP residency cycle moves GSU student teachers into associate teacher roles the following year. All current GSU student teachers at ANCS have applied to continue at ANCS as associate teachers through the NTRP, and we will seek approval for these positions and contracts from board following approval of contract with state

# Personnel

## *Annual K-8 Faculty and Staff Survey*

- All ANCS employees have been given the opportunity to give input on annual faculty and staff survey in the following areas:
  - *Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment*
  - *School Climate*
  - *Professional Support and Development*
  - *Leadership*
  - *Support Staff*
  - *Communication*
  - *Governing Board*
  - *Parent Involvement*
- Survey results will be reviewed by K-8 leadership team and summary and analysis given (along with family and student surveys) at May board meeting

# Operations

- Action Item
  - *Approval of calendar for 2012-13 school year*
- Information Updates
  - *2012-13 Enrollment*
  - *Facilities Grant Projects*



# Operations

## 2012-13 School Calendar

- Atlanta Public Schools [calendar for 2012-13 school year](#) has been released
- Proposed additions and changes for ANCS:
  - *Add* K-8 faculty and staff retreat: July 26-27, 2012
  - *Move* early release day for students from August 22, 2012 to May 22, 2013 (last day of school)
  - *Move* teacher work day from December 20, 2012 to January 4, 2013
- *Action item:* Adopt 2012-13 school calendar with proposed changes

# Operations

## *2012-13 Enrollment Update*

- Reenrollment of current students and priority application period for siblings and employees ended at the beginning of February:
  - *Kindergarten*: 41 priority applications received (32 siblings, 9 employees)
  - *6<sup>th</sup> Grade*: 64 current ANCS 5<sup>th</sup> grade students reenrolled for 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 3 priority applications received (3 siblings [currently attending non-ANCS elementary school])

# Operations

## *2012-13 Enrollment Update*

- March 12 marked the end of the open application period:
  - *Kindergarten*: 96 total new applicants (54 zone 1, 18 zone 2, 24 zone 3)
  - *1<sup>st</sup>*: 10 total new applicants (3 zone 1, 0 zone 2, 7 zone 3) *and* 37 remain active on waitlist
  - *2<sup>nd</sup>*: 9 total new applicants (1 zone 1, 2 zone 2, 6 zone 3) *and* 7 remain active on waitlist
  - *3<sup>rd</sup>*: 9 total new applicants (3 zone 1, 0 zone 2, 3 zone 3) *and* 10 remain active on waitlist

# Operations

## *2012-13 Enrollment Update*

- New applicants by grade level (cont' d):
  - *4<sup>th</sup>*: 2 total new applicants (0 zone 1, 0 zone 2, 2 zone 3) *and* 12 remain active on waitlist
  - *5<sup>th</sup>*: 5 total new applicants (2 zone 1, 2 zone 2, 1 zone 3) *and* 1 remains active on waitlist
  - *6<sup>th</sup>*: 17 total new applicants (7 zone 1, 10 zone 2) *and* 3 remain active on waitlist
  
- There will be lottery March 29 for *all* grade levels

# Operations

## *Facilities Grant Projects*

- ANCS was awarded \$65,000 in state facilities grant competition in October
- To date, still waiting for these funds to be disbursed from state, which should happen in next week
- Facilities work using these funds will begin and end before end of May

# Fund Development

- Information Update
  - *ANCS Auction & Annual Campaign*

# Fund Development

## *ANCS Annual Campaign*

- As of February 29<sup>th</sup>, the ANCS Annual Campaign has received total direct mail, online, and corporate contributions/pledges of over \$65,423
- For a breakdown of contributions by type, see the [monthly annual campaign report](#)

# Fund Development

## *ANCS Auction and Raffle*

- The Right Brain Ball Auction & Raffle exceeded last year's total income by 3%
- After expenses, the event generated \$66,815 for ANCS
- At this point, the total annual campaign contributions (including auction) are at \$132,238