



December 1, 2021

Hello Woodlands Families,

Thank you for your investment in Woodlands Schools, Inc. We have learned that this school year is like no other. We are finding many of our students need more support than we have seen in the past. We are also learning that some of the strategies we have used in the past are not as effective with the needs of some of our current students. We recognize the need for additional strategies and support for our students. Woodlands is founded on the belief that it is important to educate "the whole child". We are committed to this work. In doing this work, we take very seriously the health and safety of every student and every staff member. We will continue to work as a staff to support students with high needs as well as keep our other students and staff safe. There have been some incidents that occurred for which we would have liked to have been able to handle differently. We apologize for this but reassure you that we are working diligently to provide the best educational environment for all children as well as a safe environment for all staff. We are working diligently to put in place some additional supports for students and staff that will reduce the number of situations that disrupt the learning environment. Please review the supports we have put/are putting in place to address this need:

Website

Our current website was updated on Nov. 23, 2021. The new website is scheduled to launch on Friday, Dec. 10, 2021. This will allow one place to house all of the documents that have been sent to parents as well as any updated student expectations as they are created.

Behavior Intervention Training for Staff

Staff members from across our two campuses have participated/will participate in a day-long training led through a facilitator for CESA #2. This training helps staff assess a student's behaviors (verbal and non-verbal) and learn how to intervene with support to deescalate the student. Staff are also trained to be mindful of their own actions, behaviors, and words, as what they say and do will affect the student. Participants are given specific tools on how to intervene with a student in crisis in the most appropriate and least restrictive way. Finally, staff learn disengagement and holding skills to only be used as a last resort during a crisis situation. Participants receive a Blue Card from CPI to show they are certified in NVCI. The training dates are Nov, 15th, Dec. 6th and Dec. 13th. We will have a fourth date in January 2022 as well.

Behavior Analyst

We have contracted with a Behavior Analyst from CESA #2 that will be working with both campuses to review student behaviors and implement plans and strategies that keep students successful in school and maintain a positive learning environment. The analyst started today, Dec. 1, 2021.

Character Education Training(LACCS)

The Woodlands team, (17 staff from across campuses), will be attending our third monthly training for the LACCS program. We are working to strengthen our character education program at Woodlands and ensure that it includes a focus on equity. We then lead all staff through character education learning each month.



Student Expectations

Woodlands staff from across two campuses will be reviewing and student expectations at our professional learning session to be held on Dec. 9th. The expectation is to have a document to share with our community no later than Jan 2022.

Social Emotional Learning Curriculum for Students

A cross-campus team of staff will be reviewing SEL programs in order to select a program for Woodlands for implementation in classrooms in January 2022.

Restorative Practices Coach

We have secured a Restorative Practices Coach to work with both of our campuses to assist with a full implementation of restorative practices in schools. She will begin working with staff in January 2022.

Trauma Informed Care Staff Training

We, as a staff, will begin professional learning on trauma informed care beginning in Jan. 2022.

We thank you and ask that you stand with us as partners in this work as we move through this uncharted territory together.

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