# RSU #16 Elementary Principals' Report December 2021

RSU #16 Elementary School News:

**Individual School News:** 

## **Elm Street School**

## **Minot Consolidated School**

# **Poland Community School**

#### Data point of the month:

Elm Street School currently has 252 students enrolled. (251 enrolled in-person & 1 enrolled in ReeL)

#### Attendance

- -At the end of November, we had 110 students who were considered chronically absent having missed 10% or more of the school year. At this point of the year, this represents any student who has missed 5.8 days of school or more. This represents 43.6% of our populations.
- -We of course know that many of these absences are due to being out with symptoms or quarantines. Our focus is on having students be here when they are well and able to attend.

#### Behavior

- -Average of 6.11 ODRs per day (National Average is 1.03) for the month of November, which was down from 7.05 in October.
  -We currently have 14 students participating in our Tier 2 CiCo program to support
- in our Tier 2 CiCo program to support students who have received more than 5 ODR's.
- -86% of students received no ODRs for the month of November, with a goal of at least 80%.

#### Highlights of the past Month:

\*At ESS, grade levels have been meeting each week with a topic focus and area specialists. Grade level teams meet with Mr. Shev, our school counselor for continued support with implementing our Second Step SEL curriculum. They also meet with our math Intervention teacher, Erin Grindle and her team to analyze data from our i-Ready program and classroom data to design targeted interventions to support our students. In addition, teachers meet with our Literacy Specialists, Jacque Russo and her team to analyze our reading scores with i-Ready and other title screeners to analyze progress and to provide additional support. Teams also meet with Amy Jenkins, our Dean of Students and myself to address

#### Data point of the month:

Minot Consolidated School currently has 230 students enrolled. (229 enrolled in-person & 1 enrolled in ReeL)

#### **Attendance**

- -At the end of November we had 101 students who were considered chronically absent having missed 10% or more of the school year. At this point of the year, this represents any student who has missed 5.8 days of school or more. This represents 44% of our populations.
- -We of course know that many of these absences are due to being out with symptoms or quarantines. Our focus is on having students be here when they are well and able to attend.

#### Behavior

- -Average of 2.22 ODRs per day (National Average is 1.03) for the month of November. (\*note: We were remote for 5 school days with zero ODRs during that time.)
- -40 total referrals in November (17 majors/23 minors)
- -91.7% of students received no ODRs for the month of November, with a goal of at least 80%.

#### **Highlights of the past Month:**

-The Tri-Town Optimist Club recognized sixth grade student, Leksi Langevin as December's Student of the Month! Leksi holds herself to a high standard, comes to school with a smile, helps others, and is a positive role model at MCS!



-We had our November Mustang Pride Assembly. Two Students from each class received a Mustang Pride Certificate from

#### Data point of the month:

Poland Community School currently has 437 students enrolled. (437 enrolled in person, 7 Functional Life Skills Middle School, 2 enrolled in ReeL)

#### Attendance

- -At the end of November we had 192 students who were considered chronically absent having missed 10% or more of the school year. At this point of the year, this represents any student who has missed 5.8 days of school or more.
- -We of course know that many of these absences are due to being out with symptoms or quarantines. Our focus is on having students be here when they are well and able to attend.

#### Behavior

80%.

- -Average of 3.44 ODRs per day (National Average is 1.03) for the month of November. -62 total referrals in November (41 majors/21 minors)
- -88% of students received no ODRs for the month of November, with a goal of at least

#### Highlights of the past Month:

- -27 students were recognized in the PCS November Panther Pride Assembly on December 2.
- -Students earned a school-wide celebration for their positive behavior in November. They will be able to enjoy their art party through the end of the month.
- -We have had an enormous response to the LIFE Program Food Drive to benefit the Tri-Town Food Bank and the Mannafed program. Thank you to our school community for donations and support!



attendance and behavior support within their classrooms.

\*The Elm Street Title Teachers and I traveled to RSU 4 to learn more about their model for whole school Title delivery. We traveled to three schools, observed Title interventions and classrooms, met with intervention staff and with the district's Assistant Superintendent, Kathy Martin. We have been working with Kathy since last year when we began exploring the transition to the whole school Title model as a building leadership team.

\*This month, Elm Street's school literacy intervention team has begun our Tier 2 literacy intervention, Really Great Reading in grades 3-6. In addition, we also started our Tier 3 reading intervention, Litterra in grades K-3. We will begin adding the other grades in coming months as our staff continue to grow comfortable with these programs.

\*Elm Street School submitted an application to compete in this year's WinterKids Winter Games and we were chosen to be a part of this year's competitive track! The games will span over four weeks beginning in mid-January and each week will feature a different theme related to getting active and staying healthy this winter. Schools will earn points each week and every school that participates will earn money to purchase equipment/resources that promote physical activity. The top prize is \$10,000.

\*The student celebration committee hosted a very successful food drive to support our local Mannafed Backpack program. The ESS community came together to bring in over 5,000 items to support this essential service provided by the Vineyard Church in Mechanic Falls.



## Staff Professional Development:

Grade levels have been meeting with our district's Literacy Coach for professional development in phonics for grades K-2 and writing in grades 3-6.

-Elm Street School staff used our Wednesday PD time to continue our committee work. Our committees are focused on fidelity with the implementation of our SEL curriculum, our school wide PBIS program, student celebration, and staff culture. These groups their teacher. We had 3 students receive Books-A-Million cards for their work on PBIS. -Gerry Pray received the Horace Mann Hootie Award for being a reliable team member. He is approachable and helpful, always willing to lend a hand, and checks in to make sure things are running smoothly!



-While MCS unfortunately had to move to remote learning the days leading up to break, we did have outstanding attendance when we were remote. Attendance on our remote days ranged from 95.2%-96.5% of students in attendance. (The average daily attendance this year overall has been 89.2%.)

-MCS got a visit from the Tooth Fairy who taught students the importance of maintaining good oral hygiene. A big thank you to Maple Way Dental Care for donating toothbrushes to all of our students!



-The Scholastic Book Fair visited MCS! Students and staff were very excited to be able to welcome this tradition back into our school again this year! It was a huge success and we were able to put a lot of books in the hands of students!

#### **Staff Professional Development:**

-Grade levels have been meeting with our district's Literacy Coach for professional development in phonics for grades K-2 and writing in grades 3-6.

-We continued our book study with teaching staff around professional learning communities. This book study is directly connected to one of our school-wide goals this year around collaboration.

#### We could really use...

-The ability to continue to provide interventions for students after this year when ESSER funds no longer cover the current positions. (Note: Previously intervention positions were Title I funded positions and now MCS no longer qualifies for Title I funding.)

 Wendy Benway was awarded the Horace-Mann Hootie Award for her generosity of spirit and willingness to support fellow staff members and the students of PCS.



-Denelle Gendron was nominated for the Mugs and Kisses Horace-Mann recognition for her leadership skills and ability to take on any role to lend a helping hand.



-The School Support Staff team supports holiday assistance in the PCS community each year. The Giving Tree is set up for staff and community members to select a tag and purchase gifts for families. We anticipate supporting at least 17 families this holiday season.



#### **Building Updates**

Over the Thanksgiving Break the second floor of PCS was updated with new tile. The art room had an updated epoxy floor installed.

**Staff Professional Development:** 

have organized our school-wide celebration, a staff gratitude challenge, and our food drive.

-In addition to our committee work, we began our school-wide book study, "Classroom Management Matters" which is an SEL based approach to classroom management and it connects with our work as a PBIS school.

## We could really use...

\*Staffing shortages are reaching critical levels within our building. We need special education support staff to support our identified students and to meet their IEP requirements.

\*We continue to need substitute teachers to cover classes when teachers are out due to extended absences related to COVID (for example, their child daycare is closed due to positive cases, the staff member is, waiting for COVID testing results when symptomatic for themselves or for their child, their child is identified as a close contact, etc).

-A standby generator

-An updated phone system: We continue to experience issues with our phone and fax machine

-Substitute Teachers & Custodians

-Grade levels have been meeting with our district's Literacy Coach for professional development in phonics for grades K-2 and writing in grades 3-6.

-Response to Intervention team members presented break out sessions for staff members to attend over multiple weeks. Topics included social emotional learning, PBIS World, accommodations and modifications for IEPs, and Tier I math and literacy interventions.

-Chris McLauglin from Northern Light Acadia presented on Rediscovering Verticle-The Impacts of COVID 19

-Holly Day and Jo St.Peter-Scott presented Second Step de escalation strategies to all PCS staff.

#### We could really use...

- -Substitute teachers
- -Special Education Support Staff
- -Continued community support for the ESSER funded positions of Pre-K-2 school counselor and school wide interventionist.