

## Rilke Schule German School of Arts and Sciences

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### **Principal's Report September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**

#### **Staffing Update**

Two positions are yet to be filled; one full-time TA and a 5.5 hour per day Special Ed TA. A message was sent out to the community today advertising the need for more noon duties and Temporary School Attendants. Three people have so far inquired.

#### **AIMSweb assessments**

Despite the 9-day delayed start, our team was able to complete the AIMSweb assessments within the window. AIMSweb assessments will be used this year as part of Student Growth Objectives, a district-wide initiative whereby teachers choose a class or group and make use of a beginning and ending assessment tool. The intent is to measure growth in a student. The German STEM test will be used for German growth measurements. Past measures focused upon whether or not a student was proficient, but did not measure actual growth. The State Department of Education and Early Development has mandated that measureable student growth be tied to a teacher's evaluation. This is a pilot year. This does not translate into merit-based pay.

#### **2015-2016 School Goals**

The Leadership Team will meet this Friday to determine our school goals for the '15-'16 school year. Academic, German, and Social Emotional Learning goals are established annually.

#### **Social Emotional Learning Initiative for 2015-2016**

The Leadership Team evaluated several social emotional programs and decided to adopt the Connected and Respected program that is currently extensively utilized in the district. Several teachers are enrolled in a 1-credit course to be held in our building beginning tomorrow night. That which is gleaned in the course by our teachers will be brought back to other faculty members during Friday morning meetings in order to better implement the program school-wide. We are already making use of the CHAMPS noise levels and have signs posted throughout the building in both English and German. Students have been successful in the hallways, but with the current acoustics in the gym, they are less successful while eating lunch en masse.

#### **Security**

The staff has completed all mandatories. During staff meetings, we have reviewed emergency procedures. The first Duck, Cover, and Hold drill has been conducted. There will be a fire drill next week. A lockdown is required each quarter. Teachers have received training including key function demonstration, and steps to take in the event of

an emergency situation wherein the building needs to be secured. ASD Maintenance received approval from Pfeffer Development to proceed with a door locking mechanism to secure the office door. Office staff will eventually have to buzz people in.

### **School Website**

Frau Graham and I attended training in order to convert our website into an ASD format. Our current parent volunteer web master has received privileges and a training manual. She will continue to maintain the new website. The site is due to be completed and made available to the public in mid-October.

### **Traffic**

I have heard nothing from the Polaris Community to day regarding traffic congestion. Feedback from our public indicates that there is congestion, especially in the afternoon, on the side roads. People are parking on the side of the road and often on the grass of local business. One business owner visited our office today and expressed his concern that drivers we parking on his property. Ironically, the pick up process takes less time than at the former location.

### **Zangle**

We have a very complex schedule for many reasons. Setting up classes in Zangle can present challenges. We have received ASD support and teachers are now entering grades. Soon they will be setting up the online scheduler and notifying parents to sign up for conferences to be held October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Survey Monkey Used for Exit Interviews**

All parents who have withdrawn their students from Rilke Schule this year were sent a link to our survey, which is on Survey Monkey. Seven returned the survey and copies of the results have been provided to APC members.