

May 19, 2010

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Fond Good-byes and Warm Hellos

We will have some staff changes for the coming year that I would like to share. Ms April Hill will be moving to be nearer her mother who is in Baltimore. As a founding teacher, April has been with us from the beginning and has helped the school grow. She will be missed.

Replacing April will be Allison Zick who was a finalist for the grade five position that we filled mid-year. We feel Allie will be a great addition to the staff and we welcome her. She will be looking for an apartment, so if you know of something, let me know and I will pass the information along to her. Allie is a beginning teacher with many years of outdoor education experience that she brings with her to complement our school philosophy.

Also leaving us is Ms Tracy Healy who will be moving on to other endeavors. Tracy has been with us for two years and has helped to build the middle school model we currently use.

Replacing Tracy will be Jessica Gilway who is moving up to middle school with her fifth graders. Jessica will be taking on the middle school science position. For those who do not know Jessica, she is an experienced teacher with years of experience teaching in the US and South America. She has a strong background in science and is bilingual in Spanish.

Replacing Jessica is Michael Gelbart, who is married to Jessica and joined the staff mid-year too. Michael is also an experienced teacher with years of teaching experience in the US and South America. Michael is also bilingual in Spanish.

We are fortunate to have such excellent teachers filling the shoes of our departing teachers.

Exciting News

Pending final approval at the Board meeting on Monday, May 24, we are excited to let you know that we have a plan for offering Spanish to all students, Kindergarten through Grade 8, beginning next school year. The addition of Michael Gelbart and Jessica Gilway to our staff made this possible. Though Vicki Krueger was willing to take on some duties to teach Spanish to the Primary Cluster, we had no way to sustain the instruction and did not want to start something we could not thoroughly support and sustain. Vicki, Michael, and Jessica have been working with me to develop a model that we are happy to offer. All of

the details will be part of the information you will receive in August in preparation for the opening of school

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday at 3:30 to review facility options

The development committee will have a special meeting on Thursday at 3:30 (meeting in Ms. Halle's classroom) to review facility options which committee members have researched in recent weeks. The committee will be making recommendations to the board regarding what can be accomplished this coming summer to address space needs for next year.

REMINDER: FEEDBACK FOR DIRECTOR

To gather community feedback on the performance of the TRCS Director, families are encouraged to complete a brief online survey form. The survey can be found at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FT5RLZZ>

Please fill out the survey by Sunday, May 23. All responses will be anonymous. Feedback will be compiled and used by the Executive Committee of the Board as key input into the Director's performance review.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts!

THIRD GRADE NEWS

This past Friday, students planted lavender, basil, spring onions, tomatoes, mint, oregano, parsley, arugula, pepper, cucumber, gerber daisies and blue button flowers for their upcoming Salad Garden Cafe on Fri. June 4th. They are growing their own herbs, flowers, and veggies in the school garden. Afterwards, they'll harvest the plants and make meals that they'll later serve to their parents as well as share their expedition products and a Reader's Theatre at the Salad Garden Cafe.

Landrum's mom, Lisa Redman put the students' artwork (that Miss Kelly guided them to create a mural based on Haitian art), on <http://www.cafepress.com/TRCS-grade3> You can purchase tshirts, mugs, etc. and help the third graders raise funds for Haiti.

Margie Mansure from the Agricultural center in Boone will be visiting the classroom on Tuesday afternoon, May 18, to teach on the garden and healthy foods.

The third graders had a wonderful time on their first Buffalo Cove overnight trip. They loved the food and the many outdoor learning experiences. They were able to write creative poetry related to nature and learn about plants, trees, gardening, composting, and making a fire. Come and look at the pictures on the posters in the school hallway showing the fun time they had there.

Currently the students are working on creating a class poetry book, as well as doing research and completing their space poster. EOGs are this Tues., Wed. and Thurs. Be sure your child get a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast and they will be ready to successfully take the tests.

Thank you!
~ Mrs. April Hill

ORISIRISI ARTIST RESIDENCY AND PERFORMANCE

Trcs Family & Friends Invited

Next week is our much anticipated artist residency with OrisiRisi African Folklore.



Our guest teachers will be with us Monday May 24-Thursday May 27, working with all students in grades K-8. On Thursday May 27 from 1:45-2:50 there will be a final performance with OrisiRisi and some of our own TRCS students. You are invited to attend the final performance on campus at TRCS. Please bring a chair for yourself and one to share, or be prepared to stand if you don't have chairs. Thanks and we look forward to sharing this event with our community.

*This residency is funded by AURA (Artists United Reaching out for Academics)

~ Ms. Kelly

P.S. Don't forget about this weekend's art reception for TRCS students at Earthfare, Saturday May 22 6pm-8pm. Refreshments will be served.
