



Please find below the November board update for the 2015-2016 school year.

Extracurricular Activities

- The football season ended in the playoff for Lester Prep and now basketball and other middle school sports have begun. Many CPL, CPD and LP staff member escorted their students to University of Memphis football games. Many CPL and LP staff member joined the Lester Community Center for their annual Halloween party of the community center. CPL has started an afterschool program called Cub Conversations where students interact with speakers and mentors from the city to discuss leadership, life and other relevant topics.

Staff Updates

- Staff school specific surveys will go out this week for each school. The survey will contain the same questions as have been used historically.
- New CMO surveys are being designed and will be ready in the next couple of weeks. These will be designed to capture CEG support provided to the schools.
- Benefit meetings occurred this week and we were very excited to offer improved for 2016 benefits at the same employee cost as 2015 benefits.
- We are working on several new staff development processes, including teacher/leader roles, career discussions, internal job posting, internal school transfer options and a new leadership/mentoring track.

Student Achievement Data

- Many critical assessments will be given in December, including the NWEA MAP assessment, Reading A to Z assessments and interim assessments. These will be given at all schools before December 15.

Miscellaneous Updates

- The Denver Campus parking lot improvement was made and seems to have corrected the flooding problems.
- The CMO is working with all three schools to align best practices and capture them in order to help facilitate regular check-ups with school leaders as well as to codify how CEG opens and operates a school.
- CPD is running pilot programs around character development, based on Think KIDs and a program out of a charter school in New Orleans.
- Recent conferences with high-performing charter schools have solidified some of the CMO structure and thinking and also provided helpful insight around curriculum, decision-making authority and lesson planning.
- Agape North will be providing one free uniform to every student at the Lester Campus.
- Staffing and spending for Special Education students continues to be a challenge financially. We are working with the ASD, the state of TN and philanthropic partners to try to find a solution for this.
- We are exploring a tech support partnership with two other schools to share resources and costs around IT.
- The auditors are working diligently to meet new pension reporting and CMO reporting requirements.
- In the last 12 months, CEG has hired 100 staff members, created the CMO, launched CPD, expanded LP, hired our first new CPL principal, added 720 new students, adjusted to an entirely new approach from our authorizer (the ASD), and taken over SPED, IT, and facilities from either SCS or the ASD.