

Sherwood CLASS Currents

January 28, 2008 Edition 1

Volume 1

A newsletter to help us stay informed on the progress of CLASS

Brief Overview: Sherwood School District has been working with the Chalkboard Project for the past year in a collaborative effort to improve teaching and learning through the development and implementation of creative leadership initiatives. CLASS stands for **Creative Leadership and Student Success**. After developing a blueprint, which outlines where we are as a system, four teams of Sherwood's finest staff members assembled to take-on Phase II. With a bold set of outcomes ahead of them, these teams are now embarking upon this endeavor.

Update on our Teams: Phase II CLASS team members met on January 17, 2008, at Sherwood High School. Dan Jamison and Erin Prince welcomed the teams and gave an overview of this project and how Sherwood became involved as well as what the next steps are in the process. The team leaders were introduced and then the teams broke into individual meetings. The team leaders are: **Eric Beasley**- Performance Evaluation Project Plan; **Frank Luzaich**- Professional Development Project Plan; **Terrel Smith**- Career Path Project Plan; and **Liz Gally and Jan Fuehrer**- Classified Team. Jan and Liz are also participants on two certified teams (see below)!

Performance Evaluation Team: Please join us in thanking the following staff members for serving on this team. They are: Jan Fuehrer, Mike Dyer, Kim Ellsworth, Jennica Smith, Eric Beasley, Michelle DeBoard, Alyson Rubrecht, Tracy Vavrosky, and Lucy Hill. Their next team meeting is on **January 30, 2008 at Middleton Elementary School from 3:30 to 5:30 PM**. The preliminary objectives they will be working toward are to: Create a detailed project plan; Define the essential components of performance evaluation, such as goal setting, observation, professional development; Refine the Danielson model as described as a framework for professional practice; Refine licensed and classified evaluation models; Develop processes to train all staff in the evaluation process; Pilot evaluation cycles; Communicate with stakeholders; and Formative assessment.

Professional Development Team: Please join us in thanking the following staff members for serving on this team. They are: Stacy Bahns, Janet Bechtold, Marianne Funderhide, Shawna Giesler, Jared Jones, Frank Luzaich, Tracy McWhinney, John Niebergall, Linda Oshea, Liz Gally, and Diana Paladichuk. Their next team meetings will be **January 25, 2008, 11:30 AM, in the SHS Conference Room**. The preliminary outcomes they are working toward are to: Create a detailed project plan; Define essential components of a short and long term professional development framework; Develop the structure for District and school level delivery of professional development; Develop mentor teacher and learning coaches programs; A process for determining high priority professional development goals; Pilot professional development model; Communication with stakeholders; and Formative assessment. This team is actively at work, in our schools, gathering much needed input on professional development models and uses of embedded time. The team will be presenting a summary of this input to our school board next week. The next edition of *CLASS Currents* will contain information regarding the analysis of this data and a summary of what was shared with our school board members.

Classified Team: Please join us in thanking the following staff members for serving on this team. They are: Jan Fuehrer, Amy Schutte, Judy Paine, Chrstitina Renney, Debi Bear, Dale Gorake, Dan Hagan, Sharon Caster, and Liz Gally. The Classified Team has been hard at work drafting job/task matrixes for each job family using the information gathered from staff earlier this year. Once these are completed, new job descriptions will be created. All team members will be asking for input from staff in each job family, so please be watching for opportunities to do so in the coming weeks. The team will be distributing the custodial-maintenance job matrixes to all staff in this job family for review and edits of the job matrix. The food services job family is next.

Career Path Team: Please join us in thanking the following staff members for serving on this team. They are: John Mcginity, Suzanne West, Barb Vogel, Nancy Stauffer, Dana Murphy, Susan Penrod, and Terrel Smith. Their next team meeting is on **January 30, 2008 at Middleton Elementary School from 3:00 to 8:00 PM**. The preliminary outcomes they are working toward are to: Create a detailed project plan; Define the essential components of the career levels and roles; Develop the criteria for movement between the levels; Develop the process for movement between the levels; Communication with stakeholders; Pilot career path plan; and Formative assessment.

CLASS Design Team: Please join us in thanking the following staff and community members for serving on our design team. Under the leadership of Erin Prince, they have generated an impressive blueprint of where we are as a system. This endeavor took just under a year and is a remarkable foundation from which the four above teams will be building. Those team members are: Erin Prince, Kate Dickson, Dan Jamison, Connie Hanson, John Niebergall, Terrel Smith, Michelle DeBoard, Marianne Funderheide, Eric Beasley, Jan Fuehrer, Liz Gally, Frank Luzaich, and Amy Spangler (new to the team). If you would like a copy of the Sherwood blueprint, please go to our web site and to the CLASS link. This team will continue to meet throughout this calendar year.

How can other Sherwood Staff Members become involved? All Sherwood staff members are encouraged to become involved in this transformational endeavor. CLASS Team members will be actively seeking input from all staff and stakeholders throughout 2008. Watch your email for invitations to participate in surveys and focus group meetings. Engage team members from your building in conversation and be sure to ask questions during staff meeting updates. You may also contact Amy Spangler, at aspangler@sherwood.k12.or.us for more information on how to become an active participant in the CLASS Project.

CLASS Team Member Highlight: In each edition we will highlight a Sherwood employee who is serving as a teammate for CLASS. It is a pleasure to introduce our new CLASS Project Manager, Amy Spangler. Many of you have already met Amy, as she has been hard at work with our teams, since early December. She is an accomplished educational leader who has served children in five of our United States, including Oregon, and most recently Tokyo, Japan! Amy has a distinguished career in education having served children at all levels, in several capacities, including college. As a former principal and director, she brings a wealth of knowledge about teaching, learning, and leadership to our school system and we are excited to have her as part of our Sherwood administrative team. She is an incredible listener with an infectious enthusiasm for what she is doing. She is a mom of a college freshman, Wayne, and spouse to her high school sweetheart, Weldon. Please join me in welcoming my friend and colleague, Amy Spangler to Sherwood!
CLASS Team Member Highlight submitted by Erin Prince.