

# Sherwood CLASS Currents

April 2, 2008 Edition 3 Volume 1  
*A newsletter to help us stay informed on the progress of CLASS*

**March 31 Staff Development!** What an awesome day! The CLASS team would like to thank each school and site leadership team for working so hard to implement our very first Collaborative Learning Team Day! This was an enormous effort for our teams to coordinate and plan, and we sincerely appreciate the thoughtful work which went into planning and delivering this day of collaboration and learning. Just to give a flavor for the different topics we covered, here are a few **examples**: at Archer Glen time was spent on Walk to Read; Cipole Road took a look at ladder and electrical safety; while Middleton looked at attendance data; Hopkins dove into literacy; while the middle school focused on transition as well as policy alignment; classified teams were embedded throughout many of the schools and had a teambuilding/dialogue at the end of the day; while the high school addressed communication and school rules/PBS.

We are all proud of this work and how this collaboration will increase student success. We are excited about the possibilities that lay ahead through implementing CLTs. April 17<sup>th</sup> is just around the corner, so stay tuned for more information!

**WIN a Prize! Change is Good, You go First:** Have you read this little book yet? Have you seen it out there "floating around"? If YOU have one of the five copies and there are at least five signatures inside it from colleagues who have already read it, **YOU have WON!** Bring your copy to the DO to show Shane Murray and she will give you a very special Starbucks prize!

**ALL Classified Staff:** All Classified Staff are invited to attend the April 17 Professional Development Day. Participants not normally scheduled to work on this day will be compensated to join in the fun. Participation is voluntary. Please be watching for more information about this opportunity.

**Book Study:** Are you interested in learning more about Charlotte Danielson's work? A book study group is forming and we need more K-12 participants. We will be reading Enhancing Professional Practices, A Framework for Teaching. If you would like to join the group or if you would simply like a copy of the book for your reference, please email [aspangler@sherwood.k12.or.us](mailto:aspangler@sherwood.k12.or.us). Book study participants will be compensated for this important work.

**Staff Innovation and Professional Development Funds:** Very soon all staff members will be invited to access special CLASS funds. Please be watching your email for more information about how to apply. In the meantime, we encourage all staff to be dreaming about how we can improve student success through innovation and staff development! Now's the time to really dream big!

**Team Updates:** We have four CLASS teams of colleagues who have been meeting together since January of this year. They are developing plans for our professional evaluation; professional development; career paths; and classified professional development, evaluation, and career paths. There are representatives to each team from all levels and we encourage all staff to ask these building representatives about the work they are doing. These updates are merely brief summaries

and do not reflect the hours of work our colleagues have already spent developing recommendations.

**Performance Evaluation Team:** This team is continuing to work and has identified four goals: 1) They are looking at differentiating the Danielson framework that we are currently using for certified evaluations into the career levels we are developing; 2) They are differentiating the framework to other certified positions within the system, other than classroom teachers; 3) They are seeking to improve the current tools we have to conduct performance evaluation; 4) They are determining the next steps we all need in learning and understanding the Danielson Framework.

**Professional Development Team:** This team is currently developing recommendations for ways we can mitigate the concerns we have with late start and early release collaborative learning team delivery models. They will be seeking a great deal of input from staff once we have determined which model we are going to try this fall. Results of the vote will be shared at the April 8 Board Meeting.

**Classified Team:** This team has finished with the final draft of the Maintenance job matrix. Thank you to everyone for giving your input to the team. We are currently finalizing the food service matrix and receptionist/secretarial positions. Please be watching your email and mail boxes for more opportunities to give input.

**Career Path Team:** This team is heavily engaged in developing a matrix of professional activities and accomplishments for which certified staff members can collect and share for movement through the three career path levels. Input has been sought from each school and we encourage everyone to continue to give us ideas about what we can add to strengthen this document.

**CLASS Team Member Highlights:**

I am honored to introduce, **Liz Gally**. The words I would use to describe Liz are big heart. Excellent examples of her generous heart are the two committees that she serves on, Liz has been a CASA member (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for over ten years, and she is on the Board of Directors for the Sparkle Foster Fund. Her passion for kids also extends into our workplace. Liz spearheads the District Office at Christmas time to adopt a local family. Another of Liz's great passions is traveling. She estimates that she has been to more than 40 states and 26 countries! Liz is the most diverse person I have ever had the privilege to be acquainted with and I am proud to call her my friend. *Submitted by Shane Murray*

**Stacy Bahns** is a fourth grade teacher who joined the CLASS Professional Development Team. This is Stacy's 13th year in education, bringing rich experiences and a unique perspective after teaching sixth grade in the Centennial School District before coming to Archer Glen. One of Stacy's goals is to incorporate more technology into her instruction, which is why she's currently part of this year's SMART/Promethean interactive white board pilot. Her broader vision is to help the district develop a clear, concise curriculum for K-12. Many of us know her husband, Brad, who is a technology specialist at Archer Glen. They have two children, Carter and Delaney. When she's not at school, she can be found working in the yard, exercising, scrapbooking, or spending time with her family. *Submitted by Frank Luzaich.*

