

To: Dr. Mahoney & Board of Education  
From: Kelli Virgil  
Re: Board Report  
Date: March 2023



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### **Curricular Technology Resource Update:**

- **Tutor.com:** 39 sessions were scheduled during the month of February between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students for math assistance. One student commented, "He taught me a totally different strategy that I had never seen, and it helped me so much. He was also really nice, and when I needed help, he gave me a straight answer. I understood VERY well."
- **IXL:** IXL is one of the online resources aligned to our learning standards that provides targeted skill practice for students. To date, our students have answered over 296,000 questions. Research shows that answering at least 30 questions per week has a measurable impact on student outcomes. In the last 4 weeks, students at OES are averaging over 106 questions answered!
- **Freckle:** Specific grade level data shows that 67 of 87 3rd Grade students that are utilizing the resource are "Growing" and making adequate progress based on the amount of practice and proficiency on the skills practicing.
- **Think CERCA:** We are close to 1600 assignments submitted. OES is at 1598 assignments submitted by 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students.

### **Professional Development:**

- The March 15<sup>th</sup> will have staff members presenting PD to their colleagues on various topics. Staff will get to choose which session they attend.
  - Randi Webb and Alyssa Passmore will be presenting on HMH resources and online tools.
  - Erin Welker will be presenting on phonics instruction.
  - Mike Boyer and Ryan Huels will be presenting on strategies for intervening with challenging students.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers attended a PD session March 1<sup>st</sup> from HMH on their online intervention program Waggle. They will attend another session on March 22<sup>nd</sup> for a working Q & A with the program after they have implemented it.

### **Community Engagement:**

- The K-Kids/Student Ambassador group have been brainstorming ideas for the spring service project for the building. They also have started making inspirational posters for the building and discussing ways that they can be leaders in the classroom and around the building, especially if they are hearing students using unkind words or being disrespectful to each other.
- Lions for Literacy attended our February Family Night and distributed books to all participants. They ended up donating over 200 books to OES. They will be at our April family night as well.

### **Student/Family Communication:**

- We had close to 100 participants for our February "Chill out with Math" family night.
- The April Family Night will be science themed "Spring into Science." This will be held April 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Grade-Level/Content-Team Updates:**

- **Pre-K:** We learned the letters L, F, B, J, Z, W, V. We read the book "The Day it Rained Hearts" and talked about what we would love for it to rain. We also focused on answering WH questions in relation to the story. We introduced 10



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frames, worked on counting to 20 along with patterns. They worked on putting the letters in their name in order and writing their first/last names. For fine motor, we put beads on a pipe cleaner, used hole punchers and put stickers on a piece of paper. We graphed and counted to 10. The students had to match the upper-case letters to lower case letters. We have been working on taking turns by playing games during small group that focused on shapes, counting and number recognition. In Early Childhood, we finished our healthy teeth and Presidents' Day units and are starting nursery rhymes and rhyming words, we continue to work on letters, sounds, numbers, shapes, counting, names, etc.

- **Junior Kindergarten:** Over the past month Junior Kindergarten students have made both social and academic gains. In the classroom, students are starting to follow two and three step directions independently. Students are following classroom routines with little to no support from adults. During social station times, students are sharing and taking turns. This month, students were able to attend the ALL Star basketball event. This year, our class was able to attend weekly lessons with the OCEC classroom and learned different P.E. skills from Coach Thomas. We were excited to cheer on our friends and see them play basketball. In literacy, students are identifying the capital letters, the lowercase letters, and can state the sound each letter makes. Students are starting to identify different sight words in patterned text. During math class, we have been practicing counting and writing our numbers. Students also practiced comparing items by shape, size, and color. Jr. Kindergarten students are writing their first and last name. They also write in a daily writing journal. We practice identifying different sounds we hear in words. They are very proud of their work.
- **Kindergarten:** Kindergarten spent the last month in ELA working on learning about dinosaurs and friendship and worked on making connections and inferences as well as identifying nonfiction text features. We read many different nonfiction and fiction texts throughout the dinosaur unit. The students continued to work on writing CVC and CVCC words when writing one to two sentences during writing time. In phonics the students worked on identifying beginning, middle vowel and ending sounds in CVC words, identifying digraphs, removing, adding, and changing sounds in words to make new words, as well as identifying syllables in words. In math Kindergarten spent the last month focusing on addition and solving addition story problems. For SEL over the past month Kindergarten has continued to focus on Habit 3 and continued to spend time focusing on how to problem solve and identify a big problem and a small problem. We celebrated the end of our dinosaur unit with a field trip to the Burpee Museum and Discovery Center at the end of February to learn even more about dinosaurs and our home-to-school project for February was to make a valentine box to collect valentine cards for Valentine's day!
- **First Grade:** First Grade is hard at work as we head into the fourth quarter. In ELA, we spent the majority of the quarter working on informational text standards. We recently finished learning about identifying the main topic/idea of a nonfiction texts and the supporting details that go with it. We are currently learning to compare and contrast nonfiction texts. We also learned about manipulating phonemes in words to make new words (changing the beginning sound or deleting a sound, etc.) and are working on adding inflectional endings (ing, ed, er, etc) to words to finish out the month of March. In Writing, we spent third quarter learning about opinion writing and using reasons to support our opinions. We will be moving into learning about the third type of writing, informative writing to wrap up the school year. In Math, we have been working with equations to find the missing number in an equation and learning about the equal sign to determine if an equation is true or false. Our next unit starts next week. We will be learning about graphing.

*Mission: Educate students to be lifelong learners who are productive, responsible citizens.*



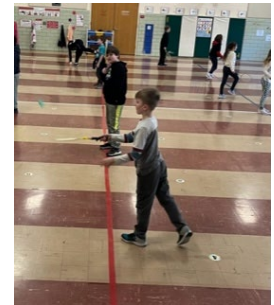
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- **Second Grade:** 2nd grade is excited about warmer weather and the start of 4th quarter. We are continuing to work on 3-digit addition and subtraction with and without regrouping. Ag in the Classroom has visited, teaching the students about Abraham Lincoln and will be teaching about the water cycle. Organ Wise Guys has finished for the year and the students loved it!
- **Third Grade:** ELA-We have been learning about various types of text structure that authors use to organize writing in a way that makes comprehension easier. We have also been practicing writing continued narratives since these often pop up as IAR extended response questions. MATH-We have been exploring how area and perimeter are related with some fun activities. Students created a project that allowed them to find the area and perimeter of their names. They also created robots using an individualized area and perimeter recipe. SEL-We just finished up with habit 5 and are now moving into habit 6. Social Studies-We have been learning about the world around us and exploring different types of maps.
- **Fourth Grade:** 4<sup>th</sup> grade is just finishing up their unit on Fractions in math. Everyone has been very excited to learn how to multiply fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers. It came as no surprise that multi-digit multiplication and division are also used when completing fraction computations. Students have enjoyed making these connections throughout the school year. In Science students recently made a bigger than life sized model of the inside of a plants' stem to show what they learned about food carrying and water carrying tubes. It took a lot of collaboration and communication, but each class synergized to get the job done! In ELA students are doing research and writing informational pieces about Black Hawk. Students are excited to be tracking two Mushers in the Iditarod sled dog race and are preparing for the annual Ikidarod race set to take place on March 24<sup>th</sup> at Park West.
- **Fifth Grade:** 5th and 6th Grade ELA and Math teachers continue to pilot HMH resources in the core academic classes. Our 2 newest 5th Grade Teachers, Dominic Marchetti-Math and Courtney Gaulrapp-ELA should be commended for their efforts in offering feedback to administration, being willing to adjust as needed, and going above and beyond to try out features of the resources to ensure they are meeting the needs of their students effectively. ELA classes have been utilizing a feature in the online resource, Waggle, that aligns with daily lessons but gives students the opportunity for additional practice. Math classes are receiving targeted practice through IXL, a resource being used in grades 5-12th as a Math Department.
- **Sixth Grade:** The 6th Grade classes will take their quarterly incentive trip for outstanding behavior and work completion to White Pines Skating Rink on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Teachers have provided multiple opportunities for students to get caught up on course work and have increased their communication with families about student progress to assist students in meeting the goal.
- **PE:** During the month of February the students in Mrs. Roger's class have been very busy! We learned about our hearts; how to keep them healthy, what exercises make them stronger, and collected donations for the American Heart Association for the Kids Heart Challenge as an opportunity to give back to those with a special heart. After spending a week learning about health and hearts, we spent a week jumping rope to celebrate all of the students' hard work collecting donations for the Kids Heart Challenge.



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As part of our health and fitness unit we also took some time to relax our bodies and minds while working on our Mr. Fantastic Skills (Flexibility). Students listened to a cosmic kid's yoga story about the Wizard of Oz while following along with stretches and exercises that help depict the story.

Kindergarten and first grade students took some time to have a little fun on scooters, learning how to move safely together and control our bodies on a moving object.

While 2nd and 3rd grade students learned the basics of Badminton including serving, the overhead clear, smash, and basics of rally scoring. During March we look forward to learning tumbling skills, cardio drumming, and enjoying our free choice time earned during the 3rd quarter!

- **Art:** Sixth graders chose a pose in front of an interesting background. Next, they drew themselves with a continuous line drawing. Finally, they fractured their work into parts and chose warm or cool colors using mixed media of colored pencils and watercolors.



- **Music:** Two additional concerts in grades 2nd/4th are slated for the end of the year as part of Fine Arts Night. We continue to be excited for the opportunity for families and the community to see our students perform.
- **Reading Team:** As time permits the reading team has been reading and discussing the text, *Artfully Teaching the Science of Reading* and its implications for instruction. As suggested, the reading teachers have been incorporating more phonics instruction in their daily, small-group lessons. Decodable texts have also been added to daily instruction to increase phonics skills for decoding. FastBridge testing dates have been set and the reading team will be reviewing which subtests will be given to gather end of year benchmark data.

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**Enrollment Data:** updated 03.07.2023

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PK	96
JK	14
K	100
1	94
2	87
3	94
4	88
5	80
6	91
<b>OES Total</b>	<b>744</b>

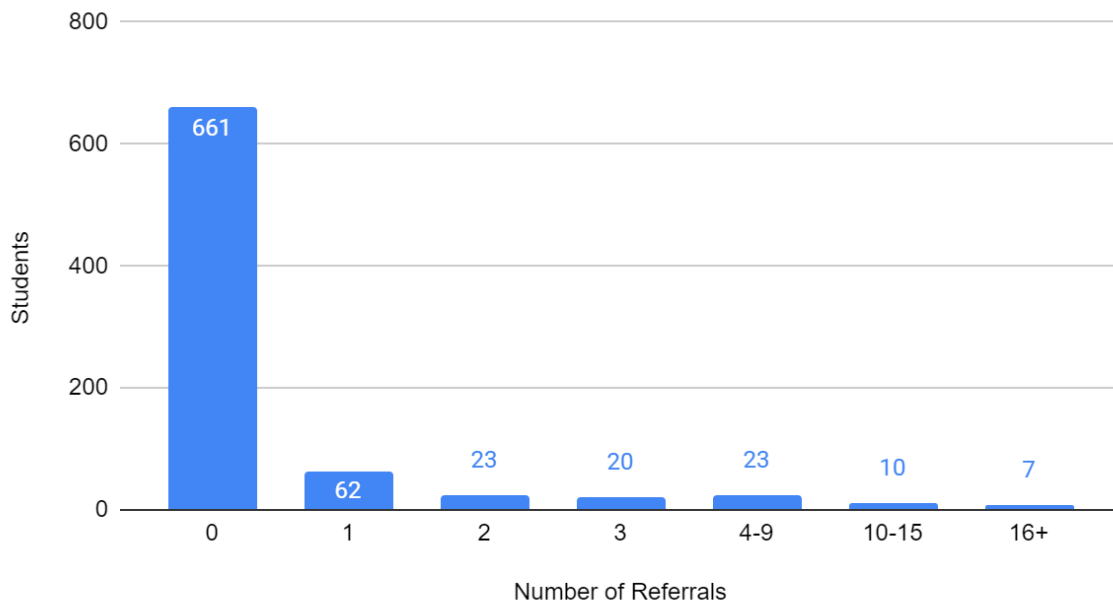
**Behavior Takeaways/Data:**

- Total referrals continue to trend towards their lowest level in 5 years. This could be attributed to an increased amount of consistency with expectations across the building, more positive student recognition, and our implementation of the Leader in Me.
- 723 of 761 OES students have received 0 or 1 disciplinary referrals. This represents 95% of our student body.
- 7 individual students have accounted for 229 total referrals, or 30% of all OES referrals. This accounts for less than 1% of the student population at OES. Supporting challenging students will be a building wide focus moving into next year as staff has requested PD on the topic. At the March Staff meeting, Mike Boyer and I will lead a breakout session on the topic.
- As part of the transition to the role of Principal and bringing in a new Assistant, one priority for our office will be streamlining the Behavior Student Assistance Team to offer more supports for students before they become a Tier 2 or Tier 3 behavior student. These ideas include a more robust check in check out system, potential PD offerings, and looking at the types of interventions we currently provide and their effectiveness.

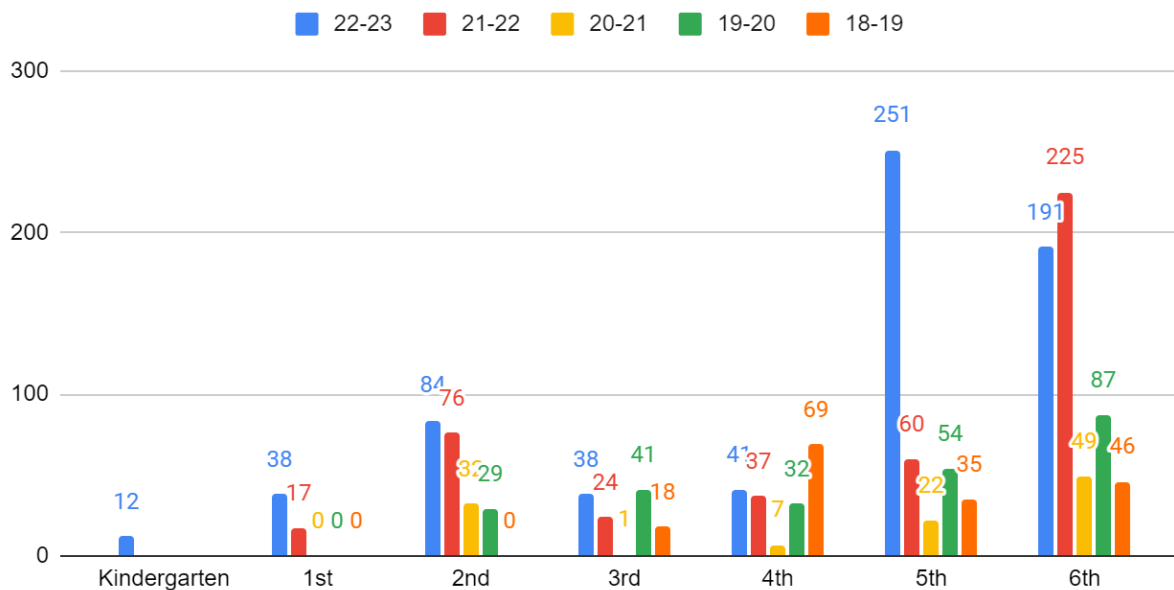
	Change since 19-20	Change Since 18-19
Total	-44%	-61%
Major	-23%	-30%
Minor	-33%	-48%



## Students vs. Number of Referrals



## Referrals by Cohort





## Total Referrals

