

## New England Kurn Hattin Homes Program and Curriculum Update Summary

Pursuant to your request, New England Kurn Hattin Homes (Kurn Hattin) provides the following summary of programmatic and curriculum updates.

### **Community and Social/Emotional Learning**

- Restorative Practices. Implementation of program wide Restorative Practices. (Currently in year 2 of implementation) Full year training with Greater Falls Community Justice Center. Additional grant funded trainings and coaching provided through VT PBiS. School wide use of Circle Forward program taught in yearlong Social Skills class. Circle processes used in most classrooms and whenever possible (COVID guidelines) to support community building.
- Implementation of PBiS program wide. (Currently in year 4 of implementation). Intensive program wide training in PBiS through in-house trainers and consultants Ken Kramberg and Teri Brooks. Several key staff have been trained through many VT PBiS trainings over the course of these implementation years including summer BEST institutes, FBA trainings, and specific topic trainings. Awarded 2019 School of Merit Award through VT PBiS. Installation and maintenance of program wide PBiS committee that meets bi-weekly (3 years). Installation, trainings, and use of SWIS database for tracking and problem solving conduct and community issues. School wide celebrations, recognitions, and creation and support of “We are” Statements (We are Kind, We are Proud, We Keep Trying). Currently one of only a few if not only current independent school recognized as a PBiS school by VT PBiS.
- Edge of Leadership Program. Implementation of High 5 leadership program for 8<sup>th</sup> grade transition group. (Would be year 3 of implementation but on hold this year for COVID compliance). Focus on team building, problem solving, group dynamics, and leadership. Full year long program facilitated by instructor team from High 5.
- Zones of Regulation program. Implemented Zones systematic, cognitive behavioral approach across the program (year 1). Further staff training this fall.
- Social Thinking. Implementation of select components of the Social Thinking Curriculum (Michelle Garcia Winner) into lower school classes. Supported with all staff Social Thinking training.

### **Assessment**

- Implementation of NWEA MAP assessment program (Currently in year 1 of implementation) across school as progress monitoring tool to support instruction.

- Proficiency Based Learning (PBL). Beginning second year of planning for implementation. Steps taken include review of materials supplied by various VT schools, professional visit days, and select readings distributed to all staff.

### **Curriculum and Intervention**

- F&P's Leveled Literacy Intervention. Fully implemented as a core literacy and writing program for lower school and intervention. Full year training for all staff directly teaching literacy. Full school staff training at basic level. PD seminars followed by full school year coaching support from WNESU literacy coach. (Currently in year 2 of implementation)
- Nature Programming. Implementation of Four Winds hands-on nature program (year 0 of implementation– on hold for COVID)
- Implementation of Academic Snapshot. Implementation of log to keep residential program current regarding the school program and independent work.
- School Library upgrades. Significant upgrades, including electronic card catalog, investment in materials, and furniture for increased library programming including library support for school wide literacy initiatives.

### **Technology/STEAM**

- 1:1 Chromebook Program for grades 2-8. (Currently in year 2 of implementation) Support and training for students and teachers for school wide use of Chromebooks and Google Classroom LMS. This includes implementation of GoGuardian Chromebook monitoring software with training and ongoing support for all teaching staff.
- Interactive (SMART boards). Installation in almost all teaching classrooms (last one to be installed this fall). Training and support for use of boards provided by in house educational technologist.
- Hiring of Educational Technologist. Hired to support Ed Tech training, use, and support throughout academic program.
- Implementation of STEAM program and initial set up of STEAM lab. (year 2 of implementation – limited currently due to COVID guidelines). Staffing hours, support, and training for set up of STEAM lab and program for K-8.

### **COVID19**

- COVID Support. Strong wrap around support of students and families during COVID school closures last school year. This includes support with fuel, food assistance, social service resources, connectivity, emotional support, and academic support.
- Online enrichment/extension programs. Implementation of several online programs that can be utilized during regular operations and COVID remote learning. These include IXL, Wordly Wise, CPM online, Google Classroom, and others.

### **School Safety**

- Comprehensive hardwired camera system. Installation for school building that includes all exterior walls/entrances and all main traffic corridors and stairwells. This system can be monitored remotely and automatically records.
- 2-way radios. For all lower school classrooms, MS classrooms that travel out of the building, administrators, and nursing.
- Emergency Protocol Review and Update. Enhanced with consultation from Windham County Sheriff's office.
- Structured Support Team Meetings. Implementation of regular structured meetings for Student Support team planning (SST) and Program/Policy work (CST).

### **Professional Development**

- Professional development. Significant investments in professional development, including: VT PBiS (full year/ongoing), Restorative Practices (CFCJC and VT PBiS), LLI and F&P Literacy training, UVEI full year training for differentiating instruction, Lynn Lyons (Anxiety), LGBTQ+ training with Jeff Huyett, Dave Melnick (Trauma Informed School), and many more. In addition to the above mentioned all staff trainings, all teachers are given the opportunity for a professional visit day each year to visit and learn about another peer school. All staff are also encouraged and supported in attending their professional conference each year. (by subject area ex VPA or Vermont Science Teachers, etc). Teachers are also encouraged and supported in attending PD to support their professional development outside of the above-mentioned opportunities.

### **Diversity and Equity**

- Diversity and Equity Committee. Working to revitalize this committee with working group open to all staff to work on issues of diversity and inclusion.

