



Head of School Report to the Board of Directors

February 10, 2020

Greetings Centennial Academy Board of Directors,

We recently celebrated the 100th day of school and we still can't believe that we've made it this far in the school year! Our scholars and staff dressed as 100 year old men and women providing laughter and fun throughout the building. However, more importantly, it was a great day to recognize how far we've come during the 19-20 school year.

Academics:

Important academic information was shared with our community during Spring Semester **Curriculum Night** on Wednesday, January 22nd (Lower Academy) and Thursday, January 23rd (Upper Academy). Parents received their scholar's 2019 Georgia Milestones Score Reports and Growth Reports, Learning Guides for Spring Semester, Infinite Campus Parent Portal access, and curriculum resources to use at home!

Our Tech Titans team participated in the **APS Technology and Innovation Competition** on January 11, 2020! Congratulations to the following scholars for their first-place win and advancement to the Georgia Student Technology Competition to be held on March 14 at Kennesaw State University: Jeriah Oliver and Kal-El White (3rd - 4th Grade Robotics); Christian Lawson, Andrew Sayasean-Chase (5th - 6th Grade 3D Modeling); Mychal Haynie (5th - 6th Grade Digital Photo Production); and Angel Pickett (7th - 8th Grade Graphic Design)

Saturday STEAM Academy is serving as our Georgia Milestones Bootcamp from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm two Saturdays per month for third - eighth grade scholars until April 2020. The Curriculum & Instruction Department has received the requested Coach workbooks and USA Test Prep online access to serve as a resource for these additional instructional days. Teachers have also received training to aid in classroom implementation as well.

Our Third Grade Heroes kicked off their **Tiny House Project-based Learning** Activity today! Our budding designers held client meetings and reviewed budgets, wish list items, and design elements for their spring semester projects. A special thank you to board members Ms. Sheppard, Mr. Higgins, Ms. Yarber-King, and Mr. Burke for volunteering with this initiative. We also want to recognize Mr. Eric Pinckney from The Integral Group who will be supporting our 8th-grade scholars with a PBL unit designed around the Georgia Tech construction project occurring in our backyard. Our scholars appreciate your support!

Student Life & Leadership:

Centennial's World Language Department is planning a trip to **Peru** in Spring 2021 for scholars in 3rd - 8th grades. In order to support this global learning experience for scholars, Centennial will dedicate a portion of the annual fund to provide travel scholarships for those in need.

Our Counseling Department planned a successful **College and Career Awareness Week** full of activities and guest speakers for all scholars Kindergarten - 8th grade. Additionally, our Upper Academy Counselor, Ms. Grace Pniewski, was recognized by the Centennial Community for **Counselor Appreciation Week**.

Human Resources:

Contracts were issued to 10-month staff on February 3, 2020 and are due back on Thursday, February 13, 2020. Employees currently on a Professional Improvement Plan (15/85; 18%) did not receive initial contracts and will be provided an opportunity to demonstrate growth with support provided by the leadership team. Those individuals will be eligible for contracts on April 6, 2020 at the same time as 12-month staff.

2020-2021 Recruitment has begun and Centennial has participated in several educator fairs including Georgia State University, Kennesaw State University, Mercer University, and the Georgia Charter School Association. Centennial will also attend the University of Georgia Educator Career Fair as well as the Metro RESA Educator Fair later this month.

The first round of **principal interviews** were conducted on Friday, February 7th. Candidates participated in a panel interview with myself and the following participants: Bonnie Harris (Georgia Tech GIFT Program), Kathy Banks (Arthur M. Blank

YMCA), Keisha Palmer (2nd grade CA parent), and Erika Hall (DSE Lead Teacher). The highest scoring finalists will be invited to the second round of interviews on February 20th and February 21st. Board members, parents, scholars, and community partners will be asked to participate in this process as well.

Community:

Centennial in the Community presents a Home Ownership Workshop on Wednesday, February 19th in the Centennial Place Apartments Community Room. Centennial Academy's Family Liaison, Ms. Toshia Meadows, has planned this free workshop to inform parents on the home buyer process. A real estate agent, loan officer and credit counselor will all be onsite to answer questions and provide next steps toward home ownership.

Our third grade scholars participated in a free, on-site field trip experience, **Fox-in-the-Box**, through our partnership with **Georgia Natural Gas**. Fox-in-the-Box is an interactive school exhibit that focuses on how important events in the timeline intersect with key classroom lessons, from American history and the Civil Rights Movement to economics and the importance of communities. Elementary students are challenged to think about how communities come together to share an experience and to protect what's important to them.

Special thank you to Mr. Joe Handy and Mr. Maurice Baker for allowing our Curriculum & Instruction and Student Support Services Teams to use a private space at their facilities (Georgia Aquarium and Georgia Natural Gas) to conduct off-site planning meetings focused on their perspective areas. We appreciate your support.

Facilities & Operations:

The Atlanta Public Schools is planning an intensive HVAC project occurring over the summer months beginning the last day of school. The school site will not be accessible to staff or scholars during this time. School administration has asked for support with summer enrollment and registration from APS central office. The target completion date is July 27, 2020 in advance of summer pre-planning. However, the district has only promised a completion date of August 9, 2020 prior to the first day of school.

Enrollment:

Grade	Projected Enrollment	August 2019	September 2019	October 2019	November 2019	December 2019	January 2020	February 2020
Kindergarten	59	78	78	81	77	75	77	81
1st Grade	92	102	101	102	102	103	103	106
2nd Grade	95	87	88	89	89	88	89	91
3rd Grade	104	108	105	107	108	111	113	112
4th Grade	98	91	92	90	90	88	91	95
5th Grade	106	104	104	102	101	99	99	96
6th Grade	87	90	91	91	89	90	92	94
7th Grade	80	75	75	75	77	75	74	76
8th Grade	79	71	68	70	70	69	70	71
TOTAL	800	806	802	807	803	798	808	822

***Our current transitional population is 98 scholars. This is an increase of 10 scholars since my last report in January.

Centennial Academy is participating in the Atlanta Public Schools **Unified Enrollment Pilot Project** along with all district charter schools with the exception of Drew and KIPP. The application window opened on January 29th and since that time, Centennial has already received over 300 applications. The final day to submit charter applications is March 2nd and the lottery will be held on March 16th. Please see a snapshot of the applications received below:

School Name	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	Total
Centennial Academy	96	28	32	29	28	27	50	17	13	320

Thank you again for your continued support and partnership!

Warmest regards,

Tequila Lamar

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Head of School