

Hiteon Highlights

April 18, 2014

Hiteon Elementary School
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District Goal (2010-2015): All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals, developed in collaboration with teachers and parents, and will be prepared for post-secondary education and career success.

Hiteon Primary Years Programme update

The year isn't over and the Hiteon staff has met all of the objectives set in the fall for exploring PYP! This year we set out to learn and apply the Learner Profile and Learner Attitude vocabulary and teach our first of six units of Inquiry. We did it! Our staff has collaborated to articulate a school wide Programme of Inquiry (POI). It is a work in progress, but some very thoughtful conversations have occurred among and between teams about the new Common Core State Standards, making certain that students at Hiteon have a quality experience in their years in our school. Another noteworthy milestone; fourteen staff members have been officially trained by International Baccalaureate! We are off and running!

The work done by staff has set the stage for the next steps in our PYP process. Because our staff is willing to put in the extra effort it takes to collaborate and plan, the Beaverton School District has agreed to support Hiteon, through Title II Grant funding, and move forward. April 1st our school submitted an application to be a candidate for the Primary Years Programme. This means the district will continue to pay for a half-time PYP coordinator position, we will add a full time language teacher and the resources to train the remaining staff will continue to be provided. The next school year will also bring an IB consultant, teachers will continue to become trained by IB and plan more of units of inquiry.

What does this mean for families? You will continue to hear learner profile and learner attitude vocabulary. Many families have started to incorporate the PYP language at home!

IB learners we strive to be :

LEARNER PROFILE - Who we are

Inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced and reflective.

IB learners strive to develop and apply the following attitudes:

LEARNER ATTITUDES - How we SHOW who we are

Appreciation, commitment, confidence, cooperation, creativity, curiosity, empathy, enthusiasm, independence, integrity, respect and tolerance.

The **inquiries of study** will be more frequent and children should be wondering about

Upcoming Events

April 2014

- 18th FUN RUN
Newsletter
- 23rd Volunteer Dessert
- 24th Passport Check Day
Writing Celebration
w/Principal
Popcorn Sales
- 25th **Staff Development**
No Students

May 2014

- 2nd Fun Run Money Due
Newsletter
- 5th Staff Appreciation Week
- 9th Hawk Squawk
- 13th 2nd Grade Field Trip
- 14th Fun Run Prize Assembly
2nd Grade Field Trip
Internet Safety Night 6:30-8:00
- 16th Writing Celebration w/Principal
Popcorn Sales
Newsletter
- 22nd 2:45-7:00pm Community Art
Night
Kindy Celebration
- 23rd **Assessment Day**
No Students
- 26th **Holiday School Closed**
- 27th Kindy Curriculum Party
- 30th Newsletter

June 2014

- 2nd 3rd Grade Field Trip Wong/Snell
- 3rd 3rd Grade Field Trip
Castor/Hastings
- 4th 6:30pm PTC General
Meeting
- 6th Field Day
- 11th End of Year Parties
- 12th Last Day for Students
Report Cards Go Home

subjects and concepts. There should be more **questions** asked, but don't worry, you don't need to know all the answers. More questions can be asked, try these:

- What do you think?
- What did you learn?
- What does this remind you of?
- What do you wonder?
- What do you visualize?
- What do you infer?
- What makes you say that?
- How did you come up with that?
- What makes you think that?

A Unit of Inquiry usually lasts for 6-8 weeks and the objective for each class is to cover all 6 themes throughout the year. For example, during the Unit, "Sharing the Planet," students may spend 6 weeks looking at the resources we have in the world and how various countries use, share, and dispose of these resources. Students will answer questions such as: How do these resources connect people around the world? Or, how are these resources changing and what does that mean for people? These concepts and questions move across all school subjects (i.e. math, English, geography, etc.), and apply to real life and the world around us.

How does this look in the classroom? There are distinct differences that you will begin to notice.

"The meaning of 'knowing' has shifted from being able to remember and repeat information to being able to find and use it." (National Research Council, 2007)

From Traditional Approach	To Inquiry Approach
Teacher selection and direction	Student voice and choice
Assigned topics and isolated facts	Questions and concepts
Isolated work	Collaborative work
Memorization	Strategic thinking
As/if surrogate learning	Authentic investigations
Student compliance	Student responsibility
Quiet/listening	Interaction and talk
Teacher as expert and presenter	Teacher as a model and coach
One subject at a time	Cross-disciplinary studies
Reliance on a textbook	Multiple resources
Hearing about a discipline	Engaging in a discipline
Extrinsic motivators	Real purpose and audience
Forgetting and moving to the next unit	Caring and taking action
Filling in bubbles and blanks	Performance and self-assessment

Thank you for your continued support as staff transitions in the PYP candidacy phase. They are intellectually curious professionals who want to teach with best practices so that each student has an opportunity to wonder and learn in their classroom. These teachers are willing to put in the work. It is so exciting to think about the future here at Hiteon!

Jennifer Oordt
Primary Years Programme Coordinator