

GUARDIANS OF THE ASTROGALAXY

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2017

The new school year brings excitement and hope, and I am eager to see the progress of our students and staff this year. We are already off to a great start! Thank you for all of you who stood outside of your door on the first day of school, and I see that many staff members earned spirit points. We are elated to have our returning teachers back, in particular Angela Huddy, Peter Linden, Billy Eduad, Edgard Moreno, Israel Martinez, Sandy Ta, Alexandra Pineda, Jed Jack, and Israel Martinez. I would also like to extend the warmest of welcomes to the teachers new to Carr. In Physical Education, we have Marisol Galaviz, in Language Arts, we have joining us Angelina Venturelli, Michael Covey, Lizeth Hernandez-Rojas and Andi (Beth) Tomlinson. Our new math teachers are Vaishali Rakheji and Shaun Supernaw. Crystal Mandel will be teaching Math and Science, and we have Rachel Caddy in Social Studies and Leadership.

As a staff, I know that we are already on our way to effectively cultivating a school-wide culture for this year's theme of student accountability. As you know, I have already given the parents a very clear and firm message regarding the disheartening reality of the students' low academic levels. They also have a better understanding of the need to teach their kids self-regulation and how "not to eat the marshmallow". At the same time, the community can see the work that we are doing at Carr and the gains we have made from 39% to 59% to 79% High School Readiness rates. What we are doing in the classroom is making a difference. The new dashboard gives us a central unified data system supporting us in our own classrooms and in other classrooms as well. While we have been very successful in focusing on improving students' grades and GPA, we will continue to elevate our students' success by holding them accountable to not only performance expectations but to behavior expectations as well.

GUARDIANS OF THE ASTRO GALAXY

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Table 1.2: Five Key Strategies of Formative Assessment (Leahy et al., 2005)

	Where the learner is going	Where the learner is now	How to get there
Teacher	Clarifying, sharing, and understanding learning intentions and success criteria	Engineering effective discussions, tasks, and activities that elicit evidence of learning	Providing feedback that moves learning forward
Peer		Activating students as learning resources for one another	
Learner		Activating students as owners of their own learning	

My expectation of up-to-date Google Slides is crucial to our development as a school as we move towards Learning

Intentions and Success Criteria. As Linda Palomino and Robyn Giuseffi showed us last week, we need to be clear to our students about where they are going and what we expect from them. As we continue to refine our practices and provide formative assessments, supported by our learning intentions within the slides, our students will take ownership of their learning. As you know, we are just beginning in moving Carr towards Learning Intentions and Success Criteria, and the process will take two years. A reminder to please have ready on August 16th your Google Slide with the three pieces of information: Learning Intention, Success Criteria, and Task/Discussion/Activities to elicit evidence.

Just as we are training our students, we are starting with the end in mind. We want our students to be accountable for their own learning, and when we accomplish this, our students will leave Carr ready for college and career. On a side note, let's all have fun with the Guardians of the ASTRO Galaxy theme.

