



## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)

There has been a shift in the academic focus of schools all over the country. More and more educators have realized how important an all-encompassing education is versus the traditional check box that covers reading, writing, math, social studies, and science. Out of the emergence of this broader thinking came the concept of SEL: Social Emotional Learning.

Social Emotional Learning is the process of learning social and emotional skills. Just as students learn letters and words and sentences with reading and writing, numbers and math computation and formulas with math, and all about historical figures and landmarks and events with social studies, they learn social and emotional skills with SEL. SEL helps children (and adults) understand and manage their emotions better, set and achieve positive goals for themselves, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. They help children learn more about themselves and how they fit into and interact with society. Learning more about who they are and what their strengths and weaknesses are can help them in their personal goals, in their interactions with others, and in so many other aspects of their lives. Our students are taught elements of CKH (Capturing Kids Hearts), which helps them self-manage and interact better with others. They work with a partner or in groups in the classroom. We offer flexible seating in all of our classrooms. And there is so much more that is planned and implemented throughout our school that is geared directly toward social and emotional learning.

SEL skills are vital for a well-rounded education. Research shows that children who are socially and emotionally competent do better academically, have improved attitudes and behaviors, make and keep friends more easily, and feel more connected to school and their responsibility to learn. Students who are taught social and emotional skills as part of their education are 50% more likely to graduate high school and twice as likely to graduate college.

As a future-oriented school with a commitment to educate well-rounded students and citizens of society, we at COA Elementary feel it is our duty and privilege to make sure SEL is implemented across our curriculum and lessons. We are proud to have many examples and systems of SEL in place at COA for the past few years, and hope to continue to improve upon SEL learning as we progress. Whatever it takes, our kids our worth it!

*Daniella Manzyuk, Student Support Specialist*

## СОЦИАЛЬНО-ЭМОЦИОНАЛЬНОЕ ОБУЧЕНИЕ

В школьной академической среде, по всей стране, происходят определенные изменения. Все больше и больше педагогов осознают насколько важно всеобъемлющее образование по сравнению с традиционным подходом, фокусирующимся на чтении, письме, математике, истории и общественных науках. Эта тенденция привела к возникновению концепции Социально Эмоционального Обучения (SEL).

Социально Эмоциональное Обучение - это процесс обучения социальным и эмоциональным навыкам. Студенты изучают буквы, слова и предложения во время уроков по чтению и письму; числа, математические задачи и формулы во время занятий по математике; исторические личности, достопримечательности и события во время уроков по истории. На занятиях по Социально Эмоциональному Обучению дети изучают социальные и эмоциональные навыки. SEL помогает детям (и взрослым) лучше понимать свои эмоции и управлять ими; ставить перед собой позитивные цели и достигать их; чувствовать и проявлять сочувствие к другим; устанавливать и поддерживать позитивные отношения и принимать ответственные решения. Изучение социальных и эмоциональных навыков помогает детям узнать больше о себе и о том, как жить в обществе и взаимодействовать с ним. Узнав больше о себе и о своих сильных и слабых сторонах, студенты смогут более успешно достигать личных целей и лучше взаимодействовать с другими людьми в различных аспектах общественной жизни. Наши учеников уже обучают элементам СКН (Capturing Kids Hearts), которые помогают им управлять собой и лучше взаимодействовать с другими. Данные навыки дети практикуют друг с другом. В классах дети также могут выбрать удобное для себя место для обучения. В школе СОА планируется и реализуется много различных методик и подходов, направленных непосредственно на социальное и эмоциональное обучение студентов.

Социально эмоциональные навыки являются жизненно важными для всестороннего развития ребенка. Исследования показывают, что дети, которые являются социально и эмоционально образованными - преуспевают в учебе, имеют лучшие отношения друг с другом и лучшее поведение; они легче приобретают друзей и чувствуют себя более уверенно в школе. Учащиеся, которые обучаются социальным и эмоциональным навыкам в рамках школьного образования, имеют на 50% больше шансов окончить среднюю школу и колледж.

Будучи школой, ориентированной на будущее и взявшей на себя обязательство всесторонне развивать студентов, как граждан общества, мы считаем своим долгом и привилегией внедрять концепцию Социально Эмоционального Обучения (SEL) в учебную программу и классные уроки. Мы гордимся тем, что в школе СОА уже много лет существует множество программ и методик реализации концепции SEL и надеемся продолжать развивать подобные программы в будущем. Чего бы это нам не стоило, наши дети этого достойны!

## STANDARDS-BASED GRADING @ COA



**A**t COA, we envision a student-friendly report card with clearly defined learning targets aligned to high quality, balanced, rigorous assessments that will prepare our students to be college and career ready. Our Standards-Based Report Card seeks to provide meaningful feedback so both students and parents can track student progress toward mastery of key academic concepts, reflect upon strengths and weaknesses, and identify multiple pathways to deepen learning. This is the vision of COA for our 2020/2021 school year.

### What is standards-based grading?

Standards-based grading communicates in student-friendly language, how students are performing on a set of clearly defined learning targets by grade level. Our teachers developed these learning targets based on Common Core Standards within each grade level. The purpose of standards-based grading is to identify what a student knows, in relation to pre-established learning targets, as opposed to merely averaging grades/scores throughout a grading period, which can mask what a student has learned, or not learned, in a specific class. Our goal at COA is to know where each student is in the mastery of these learning targets. This provides us with specific information on how we can support or challenge each of our students.

### How does standards-based grading differ from traditional grading?

Unlike with traditional grading systems, a standards-based grading system measures a student's mastery of grade-level standards by prioritizing the most recent, consistent level of performance. Thus a student, who may have struggled at the beginning of a course, when first encountering new material, may still be able to demonstrate mastery of key content/concepts by the end of a grading period. In a traditional grading system, a student's performance for an entire quarter is averaged together. Early low quiz scores would be averaged together with the more proficient performance later in the course, resulting in a lower overall grade than current performance indicates. Standards-based report cards separate academic performance from work habits and behavior to provide parents a more accurate view of a student's progress in both academic and behavioral areas. Variables such as effort, participation, timeliness, cooperation, attitude, and attendance are reported separately, not as an indicator of a student's academic performance.

### How will my child's grades be determined?

A student's performance on a series of assessments (both formative and summative) will be used to determine a student's overall grade in a course. Practice assignments (homework) are just that, practice, and thus should serve primarily as a source of feedback and instructional support for both students and teachers.

*Nicole Strobel, Curriculum Coach*

## 100 DAYS OF SCHOOL @ COA



In January, we celebrated the 100th day of school and we had a lot of fun. Second Grade Teachers, support staff, and students put in so much effort into celebrating that day. We loved seeing how our staff dressed up as 100 year-olds and encouraged their students to do so. We love seeing all the creativity shine through from all of our staff members!

# 2020-2021 STUDENT ENROLLMENT INFORMATION



## January 13 thru February 13, 2020

- ➔ *KG Enrollment*

## January 21 thru January 31, 2020

- ➔ *Re-enrollment for current KG thru 8<sup>th</sup> grades*

## March 26, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

- ➔ *Lottery for KG*

*(If needed)*

## April 20 - May 1, 2020

- ➔ *Open Public Enrollment for 1<sup>st</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> grades*

*(Based on classes' availability)*

## May 14, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

- ➔ *Lottery for 1<sup>st</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> grades*

*(If needed)*

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## 2020 FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT @ COA



In January, we held our Annual FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT and we had a huge turnout! We were pleasantly surprised to see so many of our families to come and participate, although this event has always been one of our most popular family events throughout the years. We were really pleased to see how parents and their children worked together at the various stations. Thank you to all the organizers and volunteers that helped make this event happen!



## 2020 MATH COMPETITION @ COA



MATH COMPETITION with our 3rd Graders went great! This event was organized by COA Intervention Department in collaboration with Curriculum Coach, Nicole Strobel. The event was hosted by Mr. Tim Strauch, who did an amazing job, as always, bringing lots of laughs and keeping the event rolling. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make this event possible. Congratulations to all the participants for being chosen to compete and congratulations to all the winners of this year's Math Competition! We hope to see some of you back again next year along with some new faces as well!





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