



Reiche's TLS Year of Exploration
4/11/11
(visit <http://reichtpp.wikispaces.com>)

For the past 6 months the Reiche staff has been exploring the possibility of becoming a Teacher Led School

- It has been a busy, exciting year as we have: analyzed and captured what is valued at Reiche, sent teams to visit schools, read articles, talked to leaders in the field of Teacher Led Schools, looked at the commonalities among the TL Schools, and designed a skeletal organization chart for Reiche.

Exploratory Committee made up of 7 teachers, 3 parents, CO rep, SC rep, mentors Marcia Gendron and Gary Vines, and Sue Steele as our facilitator.

Awarded \$5,000 NEA Urban Grant which has enabled us to carry on our work

We have held three Parent Community Forums (2 evening & 1 afternoon) and presented at an evening PTO meeting

BTU Visit (Boston Teacher Union School) 3 teachers, Pres. Casasa, Mrs. Gendron, Dr. Morse

Skyped with John Parr from Education Evolving (educationevolving.org)

Spent 2- 3 Early Release Wednesdays for the past two months analyzing five schools through a common set of leadership and organizational questions.

Such as:

- How are values and beliefs established?
- How is student discipline supported?
- How are parent problems and concerns resolved?

Five schools we looked at: (Between 30 & 40 TL Schools presently operating across the nation)

- Boston Teacher Union School, Boston, MA
- Math/Science Leadership Academy, Denver, CO
- Alba School, Milwaukee, WI
- Palmer Park Prep Academy, Detroit, MI
- Reiche Community School

Looked at 21 Leadership Responsibilities (McRel) and how those responsibilities are carried out through each of the five schools we analyzed.

Example of responsibilities:

- Fosters shared beliefs and a sense of community and cooperation.
- Establishes clear goals and keeps those goals in the forefront of the school's attention.
- Establishes a set of standard operating procedures and routines.



Denver Math Science Leadership Academy Visit (MSLA) by 2 teachers in March

Looked at the commonalities of the five schools we analyzed, and realized that the Denver Model was a good fit.

Sub-committee designed a skeletal organization structure

Presented the organization structure to the staff

Staff voted as to whether they wanted to continue the work or seek a new administrator. Voted in favor of Teacher Led School

Held the Parent Community Forum, on April 6th, to inform parents and provide an opportunity for parent feedback.

Going forward, the next step in our process is to take the information from the charts and surveys and further develop a plan for a Teacher Led School to present to Dr. Morse, our superintendent and the School Committee.