



St. Clare of Assisi School

Principal Kim Vangel's Blog

October 15, 2017

Another wonderful week at St. Clare of Assisi School! We had a successful Scholastic Book Fair thanks to our School Librarian, Mrs. Sara Gier, and our Book Fair Volunteers Supreme, Mrs. Ashley Twellman and Mrs. Liz McLaughlin! The Book Fair not only raises funds for our school library, but more importantly, it gets kids excited about reading and puts books in their hands. Many thanks to all who helped with this year's Book Fair.

The teachers have begun working on our big curriculum project for this school year; my goal is that, by the end of this school year, all SCA teachers will understand the meaning of contemporary curriculum and will know how to use it to direct student learning. In this process we will be choosing an existing rigorous, exemplary curriculum to adopt for St. Clare of Assisi School, and we will tweak and develop this curriculum from year to year. As I explained at Back-To-School Night, my definition of curriculum is: ***what we want students to learn within the available time.***



The changes that you see at home will be gradual. Over time, students will begin talking about “learning goals” and how far along they are in their mastery of these learning goals. You will be able to reference these learning goals directly in the curriculum, and you will have a “Curriculum Year-At-A-Glance” from all of you children’s teachers so you know about what time of year various learning goals will be taught in the classroom.

Teachers will use the curriculum to plan all assessments and instruction. They will use textbooks sometimes, but they will use lots of other resources as well. Teachers will have the freedom to research, find, and utilize the most effective instructional tools & resources so their students have the best possible opportunity to master all the learning goals in the curriculum.

There are many changes and improvements in store, and I am so excited to get started. Thanks for partnering with us on this journey!