



AE/MS first graders staged a bake sale in the lobby during the Spring Concert to raise money so a child with a cleft lip could smile again. Thanks to generous donations and a matching grant from SmileTrain, the first graders were able to help three kids smile again! Photo: Kathy DeGrassie

FIRST GRADERS RAISE MONEY TO REPAIR CLEFT LIPS

On May 6, at the Andover Elementary/Middle School spring concert, the first graders held a bake sale to raise money for SmileTrain, a charity organization that provides cleft lip surgery to young children around the world.

First grade parents and other supportive adults baked, and parent Jeanny Preston (Galen Whitman's mom) managed presentation and the bake sale itself. Kids helped sell, took in money, and provided change. We even got a \$50 bill! We haven't seen one of those for a while.

First grade teacher Jennifer Bent and principal Jane Slayton provided guidance and support the whole way. The bake sale completely sold out!

The next day, the first graders counted the money. They made \$197.40. An anonymous donor made up the difference to bring the total to \$250. SmileTrain has its own donor who is providing a two-for-one match so our donation will make it possible for three children to smile for the first time.

Way to go, first graders!

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ent, student, and teacher survey was developed and administered by Main Street Academix. Community feedback was collected through this survey from students, parents, teachers, and community members about what the long-range goals and indicators of a new plan should include.

In March, a Long Range Planning Committee made up of community members, students, teachers, parents, and administrators met to develop a draft of the new Long Range Plan based on the survey data collected from the community. The committee reviewed the survey data and drafted changes to the old plan, updated goals, wrote new indicators, and edited the plan to reflect the feedback provided by the community.

In April, the Andover School Board reviewed the committee's first draft of the Long Range Plan and made a few suggestions. The committee came back in May with a final draft of the plan with modifications.

Administration is now working with Cline Design on the finished product. When completed, all Andover residents will receive a copy of the new Long Range Plan.

AE/MS Long Range Plan

Goal #1: AE/MS students will demonstrate progress in academic achievement and personal development required for a successful future in the 21st century.

Expand curriculum, instruction, assessment options, and choices to deepen student engagement, increase student learning, and bolster personal development.

Provide opportunities for all AE/MS students to develop essential 21st century core skills and knowledge (defined as critical thinking, problem solving, communication and collaboration, life and career skills, learning and innovation skills, information media and technology skills).

Provide effective learning opportunities that promote the social, emotional, and physical health and development of all students.

Maintain portfolios that document student learning, progress, and interests.

Adopt and use 21st century information technologies to more effectively communicate student progress and school information. Provide the technological resources and professional development needed to ensure that students are engaged in 21st century learning.

Explore programs and options for world language instruction in all grades, and develop and plan for implementation.

Goal #2: AE/MS will provide a learning environment that supports academic achievement and personal growth.

Maintain small, personalized learning environments that ensure student success.

Conduct ongoing assessments of school climate and learning that include students, staff, and parents.

Use school data to develop plans and appropriate intervention strategies for academic and personal growth.

Provide professional development for staff to effectively address students' academic and personal development needs.

Goal #3: AE/MS will attract and retain a highly qualified faculty and staff.

Establish a common understanding of "best practices" for teaching and learning at AE/MS.

Provide high quality professional development – aligned with school improvement goals – that will enable AE/MS educators to effectively implement these best teaching practices.

Work collaboratively to create new methods to assess, develop, and support effective teaching practices at AE/MS.

Involve teachers and staff in decision-making about curriculum, instruction, assessment, hiring, discipline, and facilities.

Develop a competitive teacher contract.

Goal #4: AE/MS will maintain and expand community partnerships.

Explore new partnership opportunities and embed community involvement as a strategy for enriching teaching, learning, and personal development.

Develop a plan to implement best practices that encourage students to become effective citizens and "stewards" of their local, state, national, and global communities.

Serve as a community resource that enhances community life.

Goals #5: AE/MS will develop a facility and grounds to meet the needs of our children and community.

Develop a new vision for the optimal educational design and community utilization of our building and grounds.

Develop both short-term and long-term plans for efficient and sustainable energy utilization at AE/MS.

Develop both short-term and long-term strategic plans for our school building and grounds that include budgets and timelines.

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