

MONITORING REPORT
ENDS POLICY #1, #7
EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS POLICY #1, #19
PREPARED FOR THE GUFFEY COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 2021
By Martine Walker, School Administrator

E-1 School Mission

Students will have a life-long excitement for learning and be prepared academically, personally, socially and intellectually to achieve their personal goals and contribute actively to the betterment of their community.

Martine Walker writes:

Evidence that I am in compliance with this policy is as follows:

I am continually amazed at how adaptable children are. In March of last school year, when we were ordered to close, we never could have imagined that we would be navigating the same challenges then for this entire school year.

This is the time of year in which reflection is helpful in order to continue growing, learning and embracing the inevitable: change. We do this with purpose and a positive mindset together. We are a school full of students, staff and volunteers who are lifelong learners, who love to learn and who love to pass this love of learning on to the students and to share this love of learning with each other. We hope this love of learning always influences our overall school culture which enables us to continue to work towards our school vision:

“Guffey is a place of learning and service that nurtures the light of the individual spirit by treasuring our countryside, the classroom, and the community, both local and global, in an atmosphere of safety, kindness, and joy.”

In a normal school year, in the morning, when we all gather upstairs before we start the school day and after reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, we recite this school vision. I don't know about everyone else, but I really miss this time when we all stand together to collectively state our allegiance to our flag, our country, and to also remember who we are as a school through our short but sweet vision statement.

Luckily this culture of safety, kindness, and joy lives on through our classrooms, through setting good examples, through regular check-ins between students and staff, and through our obvious commitment to remaining in school, in-person, despite a global pandemic! Our school's small size, our remote location and our commitment to this school and its children will continue to show us how lucky we are to be here.

This year, one of our mutual resolutions is to keep this commitment, this allegiance, to get through the second half of this school year with the same amount, if not greater, success as the first half. Through doing this, we will be successful and we will have done it because we all did our parts. Together, all things great are possible.

Happy 2021 friends!

I think you will “see” the adaptability of our students through their statements in this report. You will see their commitment to learning. We have taken on the challenge of keeping the school involved in the community and the community involved in our school to the best of our abilities given the challenges of a global pandemic.

I asked our students to offer comments on how they think our school is living up to its mission.

From Mrs Jackson's K-2 class:

Martine Walker writes:

Mrs. Jackson interviewed each of her students by video and transcribed their responses. Her questions and remarks are bold and the student's answers and remarks follow.

1st grader:

Can you tell me what is your favorite thing about Guffey School? "My favorite thing about Guffey School is Mrs. Jackson!"

What else do you like about Guffey School? "Kacia!"

So you like your teacher and the other students? "Yeah"

What is your favorite thing you like learning about? "Math!"

1st grader:

Please tell me what is your favorite thing about Guffey School? "That there are stuffies!"

What do you like doing at Guffey School? "working..."

What do you work at, what do you learn? "Math"

What kind of math? "Addition and subttation (subtraction)"

Is there anything else that you like about Guffey School? "That I have a cool teacher!"

1st grader:

Please tell me what your favorite thing about Guffey School is? "Math"

What do you do in math? "Subtract and add"

Is there anything else you really like about Guffey School? "Recess"

What happens at recess? "We get to play."

Who do you play with? "Kaia"

So is she in a different classroom, is she older than you? "Yes"

And she still lets you play with her? "Yes"

Kindergartner:

What is your favorite thing about Guffey School? "All the things"

Like what? "Like...ummm, Go to school, do morning work, movement, calendar, umm... Movement again?"

That is our warm up. "Daily warm up, Snack, recess, reading, zumba..."

So are you reading our schedule? (nod) ***So do we do a lot during the day?*** (nod) ***Do you like that we do stuff all day long?*** (nod)

Is there anything you like doing in school? "Mrs. Jackson!"

Kindergartner:

What is your favorite thing about Guffey School? "math"

What do you do in math? "add and sutract (subtract)"

Is there anything else you really like about Guffey School? “recess”

What is special about recess? “we get to play”

Is there anything else you really like? “reading”

What do you do in reading? “track”

Can you tell me what tracking is? “you track with your finger”

Can you show me? (demonstrates following along with your finger while reading)

2nd grader:

Can you tell me what you like about Guffey School. “My teacher, my principal, my classmates, Mrs Mac, Mrs Hartman, the playground, the work, basically everything there.”

Is there anything in particular that makes you really happy here? “Work”

What kind of work do you do? “Handwriting, Reading, Math, and Morning Work”

Sounds like you do a lot. “But it is pretty easy stuff, but it’s kinda hard. I always ask Mrs Jackson for help.”

Do you learn things? “Yeah”

Kindergartner:

Can you tell me what you like at Guffey School? “I like to play on the playground. And baketsball (basketball) and I know how to play basketball, and tennis, everything”

Who do you play games with? “Maddox, and Hunter, and you (pointing at John).”

Do you play with some of the other kids from the rest of the school? (nod) Do you play with some of the big kids? “Yes”

The big kids let you play with them right? (nod)

Is there anything else you like about Guffey School? “I like (to) do homework”

Do you have a lot of homework? “Yes”

Is it fun? “Yes”

1st grader:

Can you tell me what you like about Guffey School? “I love school!”

Why do you like school so much? “Because of recess.”

What do you do during recess? “Tennis, play Transformers!, slide on the slide, and swing.”

Who do you get to play with? “Drew, Maddox, Tristan, Hunter, Tristan...”

Is there anything else you like doing at school? “Snack, and Movement, Going Home”

You don’t like any of the learning? “No”.... “and Special Event, and Messy Science, and Choice”

So you do like the science. Do you like the Science? “MESSY Science”

What is messy science? “It’s messy!”

What do we do? “Something messy!”

Like what? “Like, Like planting flowers!”

From Mrs MacDonald's 3-5 class:

"Guffey School helps me focus on my work all the time. There is not that many distractions at Guffey. The school also helps me with other problems we have. Guffey helps us get along and make friends at school. They give us more time to do things and doesn't give us a hard time and stress us out. They give us more practice time so we can get better at things that we already don't know. Guffey School does not give us a hard time and gives us a boost with things we aren't already good at. It helps me find a goal of mine like to have a job of some sort or I could be a charity worker for the sick or injured or I could be a YouTuber for entertainment of other children or I could clean the community to save animals in the world that are endangered species like turtles or dolphins and pandas. Guffey School also prepares me for the future when I move out and live by myself and defend for myself like how to know when you need to math at some point and social studies or anything like that." - 5th grader

"What I like about this school is math and it helps me by almost everything, the thing why I came to this school. And I want to be a teacher. They are teaching me a lot of things and I like it. And they teach me reading and I'm good at it! And the school is amazing and cool!!!" - 3rd grader

"Guffey School has helped me learn new things. I've learned the history of Colorado: gold rush, explorers, etc. We go on really fun field trips like Cave of the Winds or the Canon City Dinosaur Experience. My favorite subject is reading, then grammar, science, social studies, and math. Everyone at Guffey School is very nice. It's really easy to make a new friend. One time we picked up trash along County Road 102! Quick questions: What's your favorite subject? My goal is to get a doctorate in gastronomy. Guffey School really helps." - 5th grader

"Guffey School is the funnest school there is. My teacher lets us go on so many historic field trips. Mrs. MacDonald teaches us so many life time changing things, like the human body and the dinosaurs. In social studies we are learning about U.S. history and the government. Most people in my class like U.S. history and my teacher. She is the best teacher ever. I love Guffey School." - 4th grader

"No, Guffey School doesn't help me because I want to be a K-pop (Korea) singer when I grow up (goals). But I love Guffey School. I love social studies but I am not very good at it. My favorite studies are computers. My friend sometimes helps me get by. Sometimes I help her get by. I love dancing. I've been here for 2 years. I know that Guffey teaches well. Social studies are fun because they teach me American history. But Mrs mac helps me with Japanese. I listen to BTS, Blackpink and to Wice. But pop, I listen to Michael Jackson. I watch Fred Astaire." - 3rd grader

"Guffey School is small yet large in education. I am disgraphic and Guffey treats me normally instead of like an idiot. Mrs MacDonald is wonderful. She always makes learning fun (unless it's math then it's boring). My favorite classes are science and history. The playground is huge and we have plenty of social interaction. We also have plenty of field trips usually to somewhere ancient like a dinosaur museum. 1 suggestion - allow at least some cussing that way if we are mad we can vent. We always have fundraisers every year to help our community. Guffey School is outstanding." - 5th grader

"Guffey School is the best school I've been to. All the students and teachers are very nice, they will help you with just about everything. We do a lot of stuff like field trips and projects. When I grow up I want to be a football player. Guffey School helps me by having a lot of footballs and a lot of space to practice with my friends. My favorite is when someone donates something, we get to write notes back thanking them. They help me have a good personality like sharing or giving and helping others. I also love social studies, it's my favorite. This is why I love Guffey School." - 5th grader

"Guffey School helps me learn all subjects in a fun way. Like projects and field trips. Recess and group or partner projects lets me get to know other people. Also to practice manners is here. Personally I want to be a veterinarian. And that needs some education! Guffey School teaches science in a fun way like projects, powerpoints, and experiments. I like being at this school. I like how small it is and how it's like a family. I don't really like being at bigger schools. It is very lucky of me that both my parents work here at the school. I'm very grateful to have them here. We do things with our little community. We do fundraisers to help us. We also have Halloween and Christmas stuff for the community. We do plays and the community really likes them. We also enjoy making the community stronger, better and spirited with kindness and happiness. I wish I could stay here for my whole school. But I have to leave for high school sometime." - 5th grader

From Ms. Hartman's 6-8 class:

"I think that Guffey School is a great school. My favorite class is probably writing because it shows how creative you can be. What I like about the teachers and volunteers is that they take the time to explain things that you don't get. In any other school that I've gone to, the teachers and volunteers didn't explain things that are confusing or still don't make very much sense and kind of expect you to just understand the first time they teach you. I enjoy being able to be in school instead of online so that I can see my friends and classmates. Guffey Charter School is the second school that I have been to that is small but this school is a little too small in my opinion. I love how we only have school four days a week, and we do better field trips than normal schools. One of my goals this school year is to get better grades. I think that at first, I was doing good. Guffey is the first Charter school I have been to and other than how small it is I think that this school is great." - 7th grader

"One thing I enjoy about guffey school is the memories from past years going here. My favorite class is either foreign language or writing. One of my goals is to get all As and I am close to that goal but still need to work on a few subjects. I also have a foreign language test today that I think I am going to fail so that won't be very helpful. Some things I like about the staff is that most of them know what they're doing and they teach very well and very well in my math class. Somethings I enjoy about having the community involved with the school is that they make donations. Like the santa workshop and also getting the bus. One thing I do hate is wearing masks." - 8th grader

"Overall Guffey School is a very supportive environment, the teachers are always encouraging you to do your best. I also love how much the community helps out and supports the school entirely. Even though it is very small there isn't much we can do to change that. Most of the kids are really nice. All of the teachers are really great and just want the best for the students. I also love the fact that they allow dogs in the classroom. I think Guffey Community Charter School is a really great place and they really just want the kids to succeed and do their best." - 8th grader

"I enjoy going to Guffey School because I don't like going to school on Fridays and there's way less people. It helps to have occasional support from a teacher or friend, and it makes it easier to get stuff done. I feel like supportive friends, family, and teachers make me want to try harder to get my work done. My favorite class is either math or science, or lunch if that counts. I like math mainly because I'm good at it, but also because I like our volunteers. I like science because we get to do hands-on activities, and study different things every class. I have a few friends, one in Mrs. Mac's class and two in Ms. Hartman's class. I've had them over a few times, once per month, otherwise we keep our distance in class so we're not distractions. When I graduate 7th grade, I plan to help Mr. Walker cook meals for my community service hours. I might change my mind if the bakery opens up again, then I also might spend some of my time there. I always look forward to the Guffey School events. These events that we love so much

are usually hosted and/or co-hosted by our community. I also appreciate our community for giving up time and effort for us and our school. Thank You!" -7th grader

"I like Guffey school because it is small and easy to make friends. My favorite class is science because we get to do fun labs. Some of my goals are to get straight A's. I am close to this goal already because I have A's and B's. I like having the community involved to see different points of views and to meet new people. I do miss my friends from a couple years ago. I also miss having a big class because there are more people to hang out with. Overall I do like this school and the amazing teachers/volunteers." - 7th grader

"I enjoy going to Guffey school because it helps me learn and keep learning. I honestly don't think I'm being prepared for high school academically, I feel this way because I don't experience High school scenarios. I don't have a favorite class, they are all equally boring to me. I enjoy my friends because they have my back. My teachers and most of the substitute/ volunteer teachers are pretty cool and help me with my work most of the time. A goal for after Guffey is to get a job. I'm not involved in the community at all really. I enjoy the community being involved with school because they can help us do cool stuff." - 7th grader

"I love going to Guffey school and what I enjoy about Guffey are the teachers and students.

Guffey makes me feel ready academically for high school. My favorite class would be math because I find it kind of easy but it's still hard. What I enjoy about my friends is how nice they are. What I enjoy about the teachers and volunteers is how they help the school. One goal I have this year is helping with my friends and my YouTube channel. How I'm involved in the Guffey community is by helping the school. What I enjoy about the Guffey community is how they help the school." - 7th grader

"I enjoy going to Guffey Community Charter School because of the diverse curriculum, the community interaction, and the help of our volunteers. I like the interaction with the community because it helps us realize that they care about us and like our school so I also like it when we help out the community like when we did trash pickup along Main Street. I also love all the volunteer help from the community. Our diverse elective curriculum couldn't have happened without all of the volunteers. The teachers that I have had helped and are continuing to help me educationally grow and challenge me which I think is great. The students at Guffey have been my friends since I came here 2 years ago and I like that about them, most of the students here have been supportive. I plan to be a game designer and professor in either History or Astronomy because science and history really interest me and I like coding and messing with computers. This school is helping me achieve my goals with the classes and curriculum." - 7th grader

E-7 Community Outreach

The School will create educational, social, and cultural enrichment opportunities for the whole Guffey community, particularly community members not otherwise served by other Ends Policies. In the event of any conflict in resource allocation, this Policy is of secondary priority to the other Ends policies.

Martine Walker writes:

Evidence that I am in compliance with this policy is as follows:

Since the implementation of COVID precautions our normally open-to-the-public building has been closed to community. We made this decision so we can assure our building stays as clean as possible and to be a safe place for our students and staff by reducing the amount of traffic through the building. Our first priority is to be open to fulfill our duties and commitments as a school and to do whatever we can do to make that happen during this abnormal school year.

However, we have allowed the use of our outdoor areas for community use. Community yoga class had been offered before it got too snowy and cold. The community continues to access our school playground and picnic areas outside of our regular school hours.

I want our community to know that when it is safe to gather in groups indoors again our school building and campus will be available for a variety of community activities and school events again!

EL-1 Global Executive Constraint

The Administrator shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either unlawful, unethical, unsafe, disrespectful, imprudent or in violation of charter Board policy or the charter contract as further defined in these policies.

Martine Walker writes:

Evidence that I am in compliance with this policy is as follows:

I have not done anything that would put our school at risk or allow activities that are against the law, unethical or unsafe, are disrespectful, imprudent, or in violation of our school's governance policies. The school has policies that address safety, respect, and legal implications. They are found in the following policies: EL-3-The Board, EL-11-Accomplishment Reporting to the Public, EL-13-Educational Program, EL-16-Student Conduct and Discipline, EL-18-Consideration of Legal Implications and EL-19-Physical Safety of Staff and Students. Each of these policies are reported on throughout the school year, in accordance with GP-8, Annual Agenda Planning Calendar.