



The Exploris™ School

Virtual Open House

Exploris Leadership & Support

Welcome!

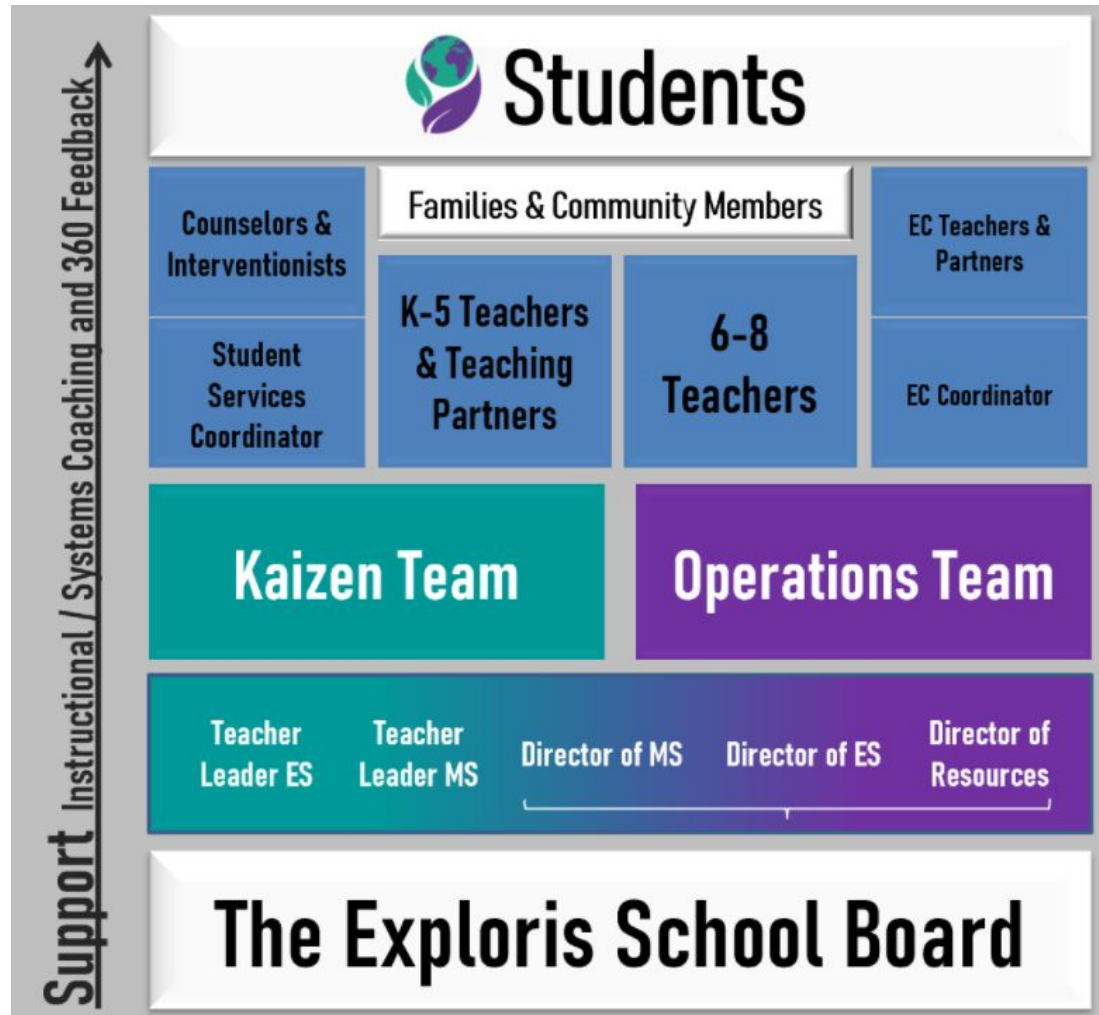
Overview & Agenda

- Introductions & Leadership Structure
- Overview of key issues & initiatives
 - Facilities
 - Responsive Classrooms
 - Covid Response
- **Q&A:** Please add your questions to the chat



Exploris's Collaborative Leadership Model

Designed to support students



Leadership Team: Directors

Deb

- All things Middle School
 - Staff evaluation
 - Student discipline
 - Building issues
- Nominal Head of School (for contracts, bank accounts, etc)
- OCS Contact

Ethan

- All things Elementary School
 - Staff evaluation
 - Student discipline
 - Building issues
- MAP and k-5 Testing
- Early Literacy Training

Josh

- All things Operations
 - Grants
 - Compliance
 - COVID Response
- Facilities
- Finance

Program Overviews


Elem. School Life

- Morning meeting
- Global arts rotate weekly: art, movement, music, connected world
- Literacy, Math, Expedition
- Explorations on Fridays
- Community Circle on Fridays

Middle School Life

- Morning crew
- 3 core classes: Math, ELA, Expedition
- 4 Global Arts courses
- Fridays: 3 Flex Blocks (Academic plus 2 electives)
- Clubs gearing up slowly
- Service Learning Projects & field trips on the horizon



A photograph of a single, ripe apple with a mix of red and yellow-orange skin, resting on a stack of several books. The books have white pages and dark covers. The background is a dark, textured grey.

Supporting Your Student

- Our Counseling Team
- Our Front Office team

Student & Instructional Support Team

- **Michelle Duncan:** Counselor and Student Services Coordinator
- **Matt Moreland:** Counselor
- **Ryan Boney:** Counseling intern
- **Michelle Parkerson:** Instructional Coach
- **Jill Hemingway:** MTSS Coordinator & ES Intervention Teacher
- **Michele Butterworth:** MS Intervention Teacher
- **Lori Mauro:** Social Worker



Front Office Team

- **Michael Gilbert-Singletary:** ES Reception and Data Manager
 - Lottery, Attendance, & Records
 - ES Front Desk and student medications management
- **Mary Margaret Moffit:** MS Reception and HR
 - Human Resources (staffing, payroll, insurances, etc)
 - MS Front Desk and student medications management
- **Koren Morgan:** Business Manager
 - all finances
 - Lottery and reception support

A red apple with a small stem sits on top of a stack of several books. The books have various colored spines, including white, blue, and purple. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

Coffee Chats w Directors

We want to connect with you!

We'll hold a virtual coffee hour on Fridays right after carpool. Drop by to say hello, ask questions, and share ideas!

We'll send links in the weekly crew newsletters.



Facilities Updates

A stack of several books is visible on the left side of the slide. A single red apple with a small stem is placed on top of the stack. The background behind the books and apple is a dark, textured grey.

Quick Recap & Update

- In 2015, Exploris entered a partnership to build an energy-positive facility in downtown Raleigh
- By 2017, the plans had derailed and Exploris filed a lawsuit to recover our investment
- We have been actively working for a new location
- We currently have 3 sites where we are close to being able to make a decision; all are within 1-3 miles of our current location
- Goal is still to be in our new school by summer of 2024

COVID Updates

- Our COVID Protocols (including our [Quarantine Protocols](#)) seem to be helping us keep everyone safe and healthy.
- We are rolling out Diagnostic Testing now.
- We will be starting Screening Testing in the next few weeks.
 - We will send more information about this when we know more.
- Please remember: ANY illness in which the student is exhibiting the symptoms listed on our flowchart requires a negative COVID test for return to school.



Exploris Initiatives

Responsive Classrooms

Equity & Diversity

Restorative Justice

Social & Emotional Learning



A red apple with a small stem sits on top of a stack of several books. The books have various colored covers, including white, blue, and green. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

Responsive Classroom

6 Guiding Principles

The *Responsive Classroom* approach is informed by the work of educational theorists and the experiences of exemplary classroom teachers. Six principles guide this approach:

1. Teaching **social and emotional** skills is as important as teaching academic content.
2. **How** we teach is as important as **what** we teach.
3. Great **cognitive growth** occurs through **social interaction**.

Responsive Classroom

Guiding Principles, continued

4. How we **work together** as adults to create a **safe, joyful, and inclusive** school environment is as important as our individual contribution or competence.
5. What we know and believe about our students—**individually, culturally, developmentally**—informs our expectations, reactions, and attitudes about those students.
6. **Partnering with families**—knowing them and valuing their contributions—is as important as knowing the children we teach.



Equity & Diversity

- Ongoing efforts to recruit and retain a diverse population to better mirror the demographics in our surrounding county
- Ongoing efforts to recruit & retain a diverse staff
- We welcome parent support and involvement with our Equity & Diversity committee, our PTO, and this ongoing work

The Exploris Counseling Team



MICHELLED@EXPLORIS.ORG



MATTHEW@EXPLORIS.ORG



LMAURO@EXPLORIS.ORG



Rboney@
Exploris.org

**For Tiers 1-3
Contact
Counselor@exploris.org**

Core Support

Tier 1

- PREVENTION
- CLASSROOM GUIDANCE
- CREW SEL
- CLASSWIDE PROBLEM SOLVING
- GRADE LEVEL CHECK-INS AS NEEDED
- ASSISTANCE WITH CLASSWIDE SEL
- INTERVENTION PROGRAMMING
- SEL SCREENING

Supplemental Support

Tier 2

SHORT DURATION:

- SMALL GROUP INTERVENTION
- SOCIAL SKILLS/ACADEMIC SUPPORT INCLUDING SEL COMPETENCIES
- LUNCH BUNCHES
- BRIEF 1 ON 1 CHECK INS
- GOOGLE HANGOUT CHECK INS

Intensive Support

Tier 3

- INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING SESSIONS
- OUTSIDE REFERRALS
- BEHAVIOR PLANNING

CRISIS / 504 Support

CONTACT: Michelle Duncan & Leadership

- RISK ASSESSMENT
- SUICIDE SCREENING
- ABUSE
- SELF HARM
- FOOD INSECURITIES
- HOMELESSNESS

The Exploris Counseling Team

Student Support Programs

Counselor Corner Website

- Gaggle, [Say Something App](#), [online anonymous bullying report form](#)
- [Section 504](#), *Health Plans*, [McKinney Vento](#), *Foster Care*
- Lunch Program (including Free/Reduced)
- Tech Support (Lenny, Josh)
- [Title I](#)
- [SEL Screener](#) (2 x a yr)
- [Self-referral form](#) for 3-8 graders
- SEL class-wide lessons as requested by grade level



Restorative Justice

- RJ is a behavior approach that focuses on the **impact of actions** on a community
- Students are encouraged to **look less at the “why”** they did something (intention) and **more at the results** of what they did (impact)
- Punishment is replaced by **consequences**: How did this action damage the community, and what needs to be done to restore that community?
- The student becomes responsible for **repairing harm**
- The whole community is involved in the solution
- Helps teach students responsibility and relationships

Traditional Punitive vs. Restorative Justice

PUNITIVE	RESTORATIVE
SCHOOL RULES ARE BROKEN	PEOPLE AND RELATIONSHIPS ARE HARMED.
JUSTICE FOCUSES ON ESTABLISHING GUILT.	JUSTICE IDENTIFIES NEEDS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.
ACCOUNTABILITY=PUNISHMENT	ACCOUNTABILITY= UNDERSTANDING IMPACT AND REPAIRING HARM.
JUSTICE DIRECTED AT OFFENDER, THE VICTIM IS IGNORED	OFFENDER, VICTIM, SCHOOL (AND PARENTS) ALL HAVE DIRECT ROLES IN THE JUSTICE PROCESS



Need Help?

- Crew Teachers!!
- Website: Exploris.org
- Info@Exploris.org
- Leadership@Exploris.org
- Counselor@Exploris.org

Please keep in mind that we are working professionals, and allow us 24 hours to respond to emails, particularly emails sent after hours and over the weekend or holidays.





The 2021-2022 Annual Fund Drive is underway! Please donate today at <https://exploris.kindful.org>. We ask every family to donate what they can. Contact Kimberly Harris at annualfund@exploris.org with any questions.



The Floor is Open for Your Questions!

We will pull from chat and
get to as many as we can!