Mission: To provide a safe, healthy, collaborative community of engaged learners who are inspired academically while fostering a supportive network for families.

ITEM: Principal Report: August

Purpose: Discussion

Submitted by: Dr. Tamara Burns

Related Material: PowerPoint Presentation

BACKGROUND: The purpose of this report is to provide the board with a staffing update for the start of the 2023 - 2024 school year, how the Beginning of the Year Professional Development sessions went for teachers and staff, and some preliminary data from the Spring 2023 State Assessments.

RECOMMENDATION: This is an information item only. No recommendations.

Principal Report: August

Staffing Update:

Our new staff reported to Orientation on August 4, 2023. They spent a day in professional development digging into the mission and vision of Scuola Vita Nuova, the charter school's history, general expectations and procedures, and our instructional framework and resources. Below are the new staff hired for the 2023 - 2024 school year.

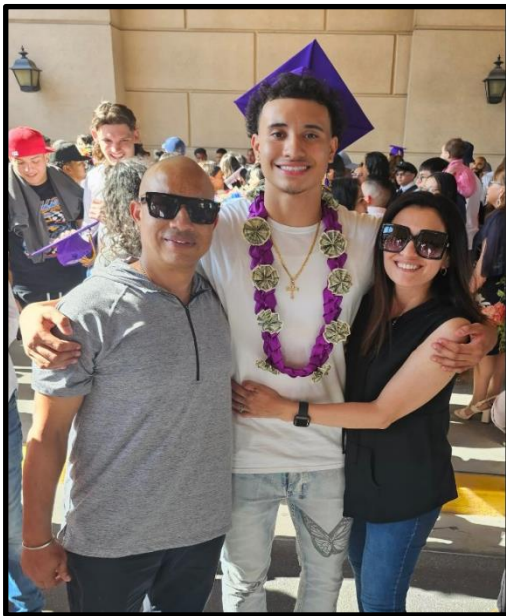**Ms. Jessica Kohrs**
1st Grade Teacher

Ms. Martha Sota
2nd Grade Teacher

Mrs. Tracy Martling
Speech Language Pathologist

Mr. Paul Rouen
Technology Director

Mr. Sterling Knox
Paraprofessional

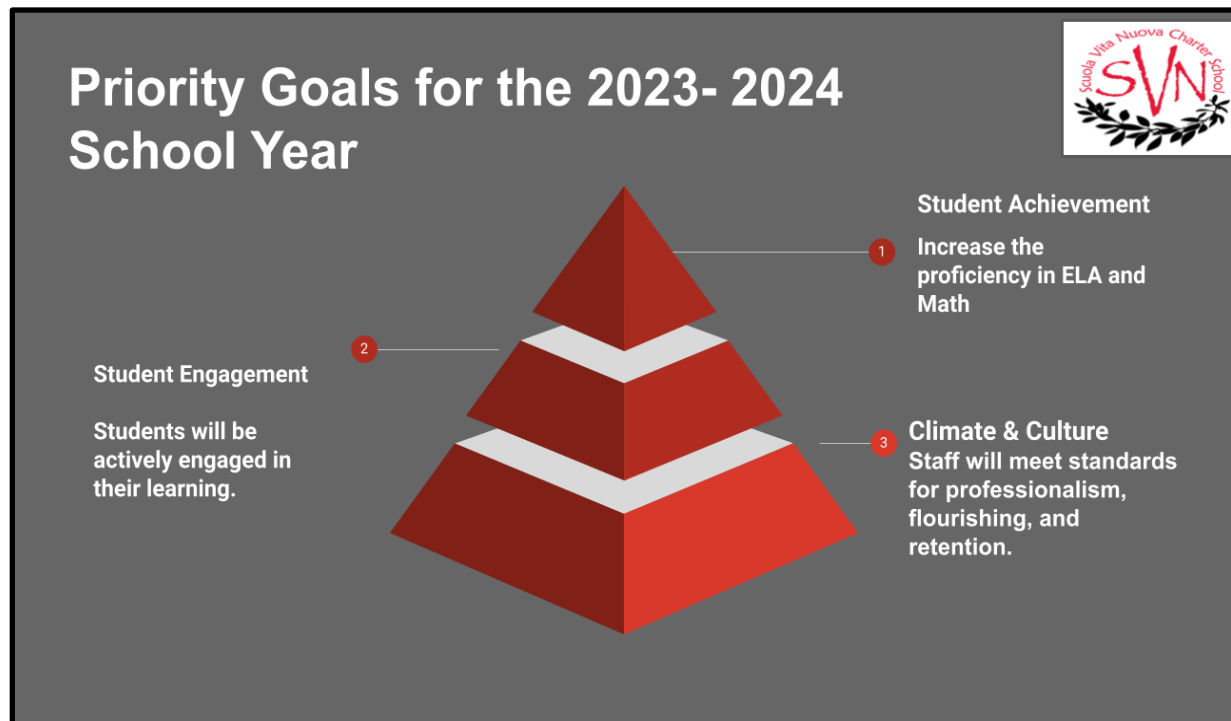**Mrs. Gerrilyn Knox**
Paraprofessional

Ms. Annabella Rudesill
Paraprofessional

In addition to these new positions, several more were filled internally due to the lack of applicants and qualified candidates. We had to move a staff member to the second grade teacher position and another to the 5th/6th math teacher position. Mrs. Goodman will provide more specifics in her report to the board.

Beginning of the Year Professional Development:

All staff reported back to school for professional development on August 7, 2023 until August 16, 2023. We anchored our work into the mission and vision of the school and how these statements inform the culture of the school. In addition, we examined the priority goals set by the board and preliminary action steps to work towards accomplishing the goals.
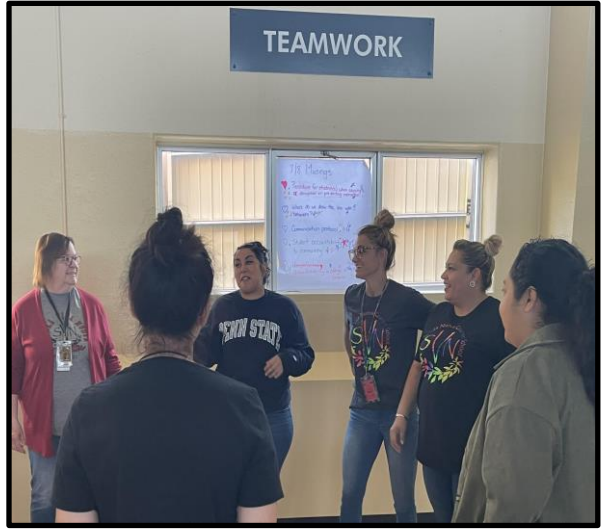

Staff also learned more about the Flourishing Project. SVN is excited to partner with the Education for Flourishing Project at the Consortium for Human Flourishing, Saint Louis University. This work will focus on the wellbeing in our school system and ensure we address the needs of our staff. We will celebrate and capitalize on the strengths of our diverse community while supporting the whole employee, whole child, and family. Target Outcomes of this work are as follows:
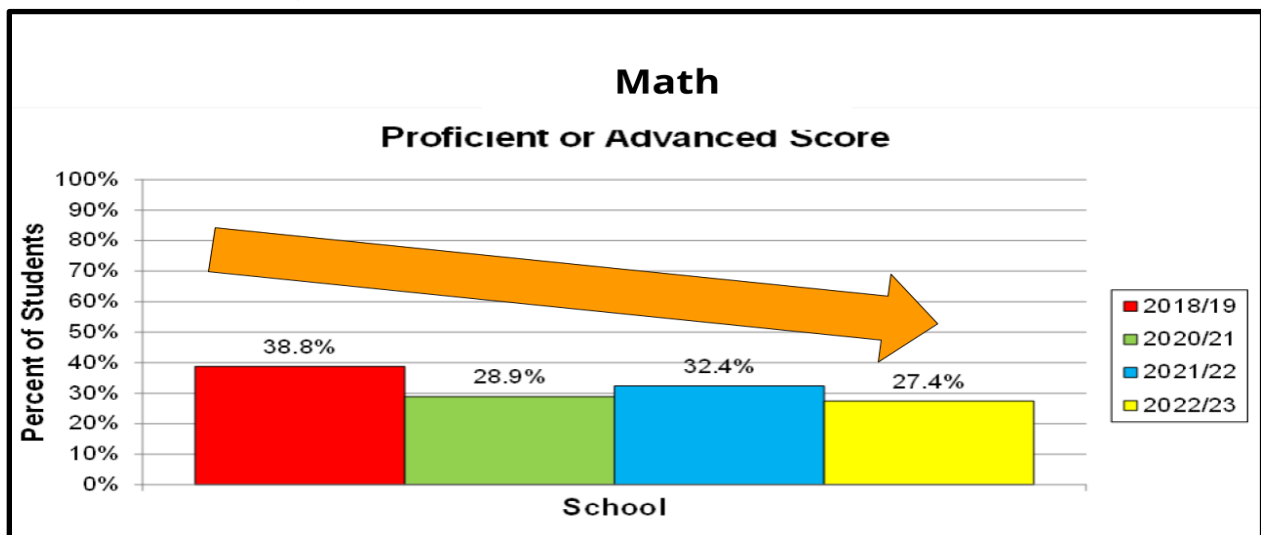
- Teacher and staff levels of flourishing will increase.
- Teacher burnout levels will decrease, as measured by the Harvard Human Flourishing Scale, Work and Teacher Flourishing Scale, and Teacher Burnout Scale.
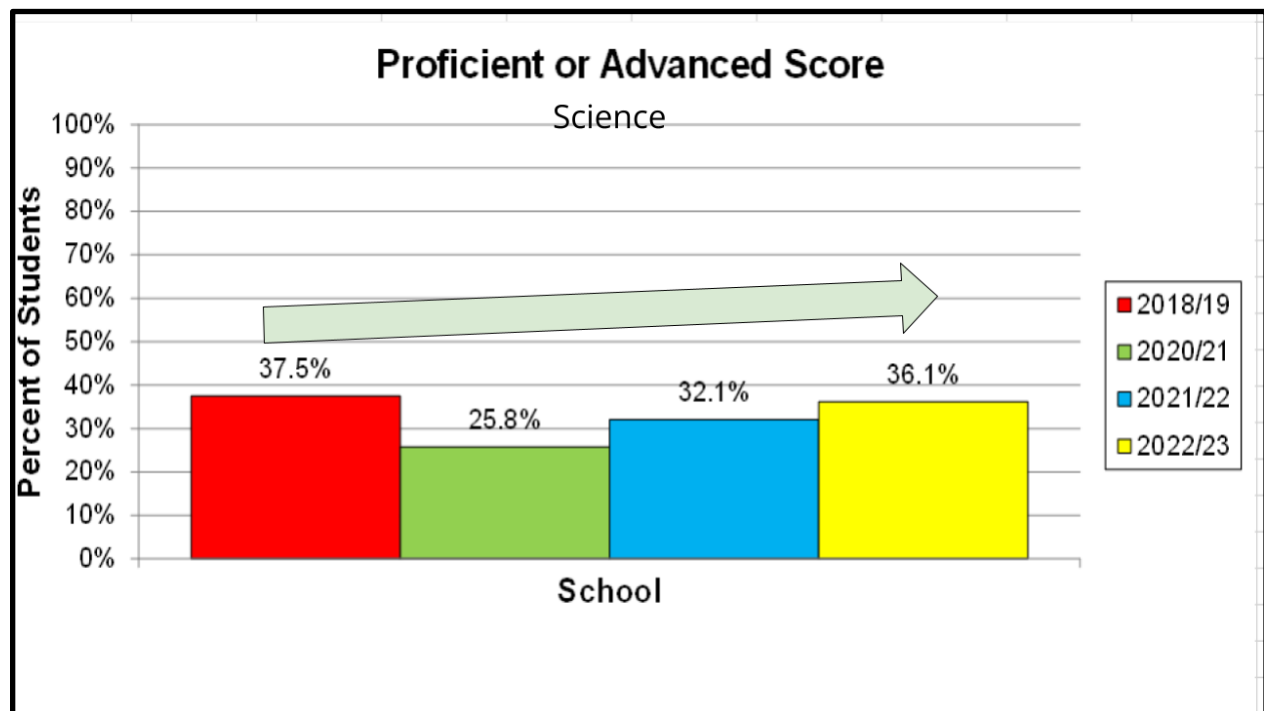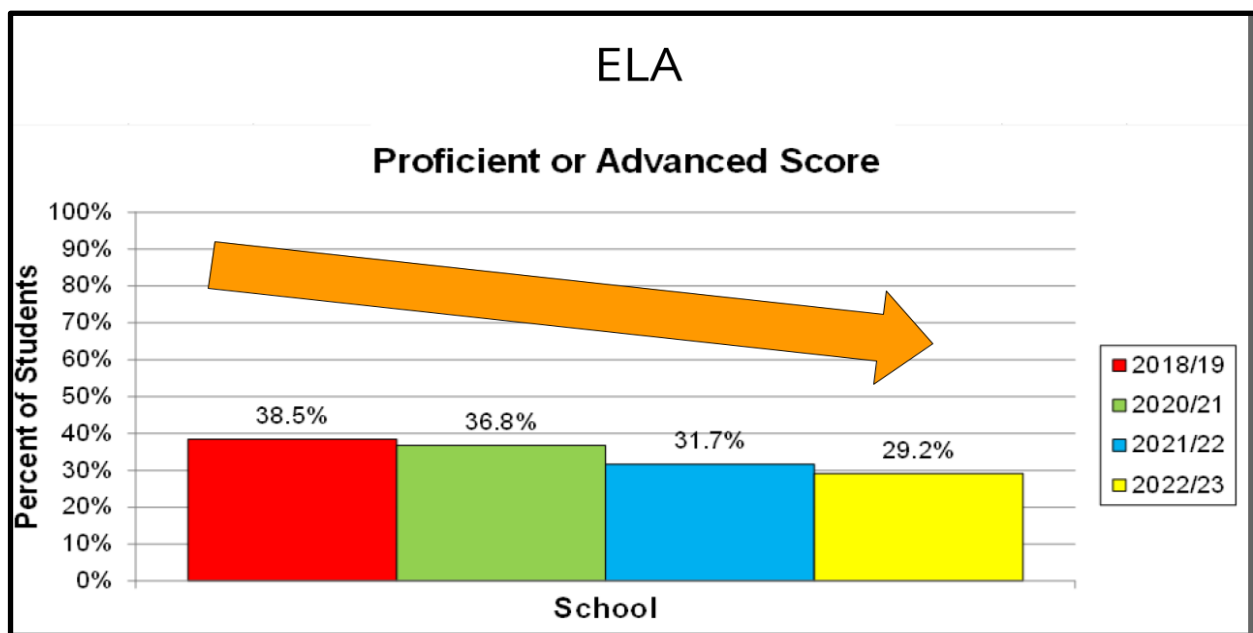- SVN will continue to see high levels of teacher retention.

MAP Data: Preliminary State Assessment Results

Our 2023 State Assessment results show a drop in both ELA and Math assessments. However, our science scores increased from the 2022 State Assessment. State results are currently embargoed until finalized data are released from DESE.

Math

Proficient or Advanced Score

- 2018/19
- 2020/21
- 2021/22
- 2022/23

38.8% 28.9% 32.4% 27.4%

Even though state assessments only tell part of the story of our students' development, growth, and needs, it is an important part that our teachers and staff must pay attention to, so students reach their full academic potential.

Staff will continually evaluate state assessment results to identify trends and individual student learning needs. This will help us improve teaching and learning across our school and meet student achievement goals. We will monitor students' progress and learning towards the grade level Missouri Learning Standards by providing personalized interventions and acceleration in real time. Thus, increasing proficiency, but also reducing the number of students in Below Basic. These metrics will be tracked at each tested grade level as well as sub-groups of students in SPED and ELL.

There are students behind these numbers.

What story does the data tell us about our students?