

Middle School Positive Sharing

1) Middle school conferences were held this week. We scheduled conferences with homeroom teachers again this spring as we have had lots of positive feedback about having a scheduled time for parents to meet. Teachers collaborated on student progress so that the homeroom teachers would have a complete picture of how the students were doing.

Attendance was very good with 86% overall attendance and it broke down to 92% in 5th, 76% in 6th, 85% in 7th and 89% in 8th grade. It is rare to have such high attendance for 8th so that was a real positive. We appreciate the opportunity to discuss with parents their child's progress.

We are considering making a switch next year that fall conferences would be with the homeroom teacher but the spring would be with either the other grade level homeroom teacher or a different teacher that the student has so that parents can meet with another teacher.

2) The fifth grade students went to the capital this week after having it postponed last week. They had a great day there and saw a very busy day with many people in the capital. Students got to meet the senators and representatives and tour the building. They also went to the State Historical Building.

3) The seventh and eighth graders had a dance last Friday that was attended by most of the students. Tony Pieper was the DJ and does a great job getting the students to participate. Heath Rhinehart was a chaperone and Chris Rhinehart organized it.

4) February 4th we did the annual bridge design presentation and breaking. Students in Mrs. Penick's enrichment program get to design a bridge and build it out of balsa sticks. Jonathan Neff was the champion setting a new record for weight that the bridge would hold, 56 lbs. 2nd place with 40 lbs was the team of Coby Willett and Phaelan Lewis and 3rd place was Jack Garber with 36 lbs.

5) Junior high winter sports have concluded for the season. Athletes worked hard and showed improvement throughout the season. Thanks to the coaches, Lora Bachman, Theresa Penick, Les Penick, Heath Rhinehart, Lynn Silver and Matt Zoske for the work with the athletes.

6) Fifth graders had a guest speaker from China, Alice Chen, who works with Mrs. Geelhart's husband.

7) Mr. Bartling organized a fifth through eighth grade band solo contest on February 11th. Students worked on solos since the last concert and performed before a judge. The judge gave each student written comments and a rating.

8) 174 students got to participate in the January reward activity. That was 96% so that was probably one of the highest percentages ever. So lots of positive behavior.

9) Ms. Holcomb has been doing some really creative work in art right now. She had students do some chalk drawings of pictures from the Hubble Space Telescope which was a creative way to integrate science into her class.

10) The high school Show Choir put on a great performance for the middle school students today. Thanks to Jami Willett and Bradley Wilson for all their hard work and their arranging for the Show Choir to perform at the middle school.