

11/9/15

High School Principal Report to the Board

Submitted by Sarah Updegraff

1. Two students were named All State Musician! Bethany Zenk and Gavin Popken will be representing us in the band this month at the Festival at Iowa State University.
2. We finished our Parent-Teacher conferences Thursday evening. We continue to reach out to parents on a number of different levels to get them here, but continue to have good attendance the two nights. We are discussing as a staff moving them into classrooms in groups or other alternatives.
3. We continue to make good progress with PBIS regarding attendance, referrals, and academically struggling students. The failing list is currently under 5% of our students-- the lowest since I have been here. Homeroom TRIBE time teachers have started putting monthly incentives to lower MIRs for their group and students are responding very positively. Attendance rate is 93% right now and we want to bring it up to 95% by the end of the year.
4. Mr. Jurrens has brought you a list of students for approval for early graduation in January. They must complete all course work and be in good standing to graduate early. Please remember they do not receive their diplomas until May with the rest of the class. We have a rather large group this year, but I pleased that each students has a plan to begin their post-secondary education immediately.
5. Our Veteran's Day assembly is Wednesday at 1 pm. We invite you to attend. Brian Quirk will be speaking and the band will be performing. We have coordinated programming for all three buildings this year and will also be participating at the ceremony at the courthouse.
6. I had the opportunity to attend the Iowa BIG school one afternoon last week with the Charles City principal as part of the BEST-STEM Grant given to New Hampton, Charles City, Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock, and Osage. In addition, Mike Kuennen did a full immersion week there at the same time. We plan to have the team of teachers give you a brief presentation at the December or January meeting in order to show you what they have learned and talk about the planning they are beginning.
7. The musical is this week and students are gearing up for big performances Thursday and Friday evening. In addition we are doing a "teaser" here on Thursday afternoon for the high school student body and a matinee downtown on Friday. Please contact Erica in the Activities Office if you still need tickets.
8. The CLL (Career Learning Link) program currently has 18 juniors signed up. This program includes job shadows, internships and college credit and is associated with NICC. This only currently has been presented to half of the class and will be introduced to the other half before the end of the semester. The career exploration and opportunities this provides includes building capacity for students to stay or return to the community to build local industry.