

New Hampton Middle School

May 14, 2012

by Donita Joens

MAP Assessments

I have attached results of our spring MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) results. Where there were areas of improvement needed from the reading comprehension scores from Iowa Assessment, MAP data did not show this at any grade level. Goals were met in all grade levels in middle school. Math received high scores in Iowa Assessment but MAP data did not necessarily agree. Goals were not met in grades 5, 7, and 8 from MAP scores. This is why it is frustrating to determine action plans based on one means of assessment. I provided hard copies of trend data for students in grades five through eight for the past eight years. In addition to what teachers are already doing in the classroom, students who fail any type of assessment next year will have to be re-taught concepts missed in reading and math courses.

Renaissance Faire

Sixth grade students, parents, and community members enjoyed hearing and seeing how life during the Renaissance Period was lived. Music, booths, and conversations about various professions during this period were held on April 19 in the cafeteria.



Transition Days

I met with all 4th grade students on April 30 to share similarities and differences between the elementary and middle school. On May 1-3, students had an opportunity to visit advisor time and the first two periods of the day. After this, students met in the computer lab to register for classes for next year with Mrs. Joens. Materials are attached.

8th Grade Recognition Breakfast

8th grade students will be honored at the annual 8th Grade Recognition Breakfast on May 15. Following the breakfast and honors, students and parents will watch a video, designed by Jeanette Laures, that recaps many middle school memories of the future class of 2016. A program is attached.

Reading Rally

Middle School students attended an assembly on April 5 to begin selling magazines for the Reading Rally St. Council fundraiser. Last year was the first year for this fundraiser, bringing in approximately \$2500.00 for the school. We should know by the June Board meeting what our fundraising efforts raised for NHMS.



Taylor Pickar is pictured with her 21 Bingo cards at the party, which Reading Rally sponsored for any student who sold at least one magazine.

Olympic Day

Olympic Day was celebrated on April 25 in the auditorium. The torch passing began on April 3 and continued through each of the 14 advisor rooms until Olympic Day. Students learned about 14 different cultures and customs from various countries throughout the world, how to work together to give a presentation, and communicate with an audience. It was a great learning opportunity for everyone.



Polka dancing for the Czech Republic



South Korean discipline and respect drills



Olympic Day Walking Wednesday on the track

ELP Field Trips and Activities

The 5th-7th grade ELP students visited the Mississippi River Aquarium and Museum and Mathias Ham House in Dubuque on May 2. On April 18, 8th grade ELP students went to the National Trust Historic Site and Community Cultural Center in Cedar Rapids. One of the special features at the Center was the Titanic exhibit. Both trips were outstanding learning opportunities for our students.

“Battle of the Books” was held on April 10 in the auditorium. It was an intense battle between various teams made up of third through fifth grade students. The winning team had fifth grade student, Noah Fenske, as one of its leaders. Students were given the opportunity to read as many of the 25 books possible to answer various questions for their team. Congratulations to Faith Erdman who read all 25 books!



Winning “Battle of the Books” Team

Chickasaw Idol

Chickasaw Idol was held during the week of May 7 during lunchtime. 18 acts entertained the middle school students during lunch, which involved about 50 students. Thanks to these students for sharing their great talents with one another! A program is attached.

District Wellness Report

I have attached a recap of this year’s wellness activities as well as next year’s goals. We celebrate the wellness initiatives we completed this year and look forward to more changes for the upcoming school year. Student health/wellness is a major nationwide issue.