

Middle School Principal's Report to the Board
August 2013

1. Registration took place on August 5th and 6th. We have had close to 70% complete the registration. The day went smooth. Parents without email worked in the library, and parents who had completed single sign on worked in the cafeteria. Lisa and I are contacting those who have not yet registered.
2. First day of school: students will meet in homerooms and then transition to the auditorium and gymnasium to go over new handbook and policy changes. Students will go through a technology bootcamp in the afternoon learning how to manage their iPad devices. They will establish folders for their different courses and organize their email accounts.
3. Middle School Open House will be the night of the 13th. Parents will start in the auditorium or gymnasium for a 15-minute iPad orientation and then transition to their child's homeroom. Students will have an opportunity to meet their teachers, set up their lockers, and go through their schedule.
4. This year we have a 24-minute time built into the schedule where staff will be using data to drive small group instruction with students. Staff will meet weekly with their grade level teams and use data from the Iowa Assessments and NWEA MAP tests to group students based on needs. Staff will then determine an instructional plan for those students and begin working with them in the 24-minute homeroom time.
5. Leadership Teams: We are going to try something different in place of our student council this year. There are about thirty different leadership teams students will have an opportunity to sign up for. I have created a Google form where they will select their first choice and so on. Students will then serve on a team for the year working with the assigned staff member.
6. Facebook Page: Please be sure to check out our Middle School Facebook page. We will be posting upcoming events and highlighting things happening at the middle school. Search for New Hampton Middle School
7. Kwik Star Cards: We will be starting the year off with our fundraiser versus later in October. Last year we raised roughly \$4500.00 from our kickoff.
8. Summer School: We ran summer school this year from July 29-August 9. The feedback I have received from ZoAnn Bear and the students was very positive. We are looking at recruiting incoming 4th graders for next year. They used the eSpark program on a daily basis for reading and math. The program uses individual MAP data on each student and then creates quests for the students to complete based on their individual skill needs.
9. We have our new teacher at the middle school level. Jenny Peters will be teaching 5-8 band. Jenn Gilbert will be teaching 5-8 special education. Carolin Remmen will be the 5th/6th special education teacher, and Ryan Gray will be the middle school generalist and module lab instructor.