February 11, 2013

Middle School Board Report

1. Eighth grade ELP students are in the process of creating a special U.S. History project.  Students are currently learning about the Roaring Twenties.  They are researching several people and events from this decade.  After reading about a variety of people and happenings, each student will prepare a 30 informational tidbit to air on 95.1, The Bull.  Mrs. Burgart contacted the radio station to propose the idea.  The station representative thought it was a super idea and encouraged Mrs. Burgart to go ahead with the project. After the students write their informative radio blurb they will practice reading it out loud for the radio.  Someone from the station will meet with the students, at our school, to record the items or students will use podcast.  The informational tidbits will be broadcast periodically in the near future.
2. Modules – Decorah. I went and viewed Pitsco Modules at Decorah Middle School on Friday, February 1st. This is something I am considering for next year at the 7th and 8th grade level. I am also planning on visiting Denver to see the Project Lead the Way curriculum they are using.
3. Invention Convention was held January 31, 2013. There were inventions from shoe organizers to the all-in-one ketchup/mustard bottle. Judging took place from 6:30-7:30 pm. Public viewing was from 7:30-8:30 pm. The following students advanced on:

3rd Grade-Audrey Anderson, Bailey Kriener, Mason Lane

4th Grade-Grace Burrett, Erik Heeren, Claire Quirk  
5th Grade-Brayden Anderson, Kaylee Eggerichs, Kacey Olson, Ethan Rosonke  
6th Grade-Kylie Rosonke  
7th Grade-Hannah Meissen   
8th Grade-McKenze Schoba and Carlie Throndson.

1. Reading Rocks – This past Wednesday was our first meeting with the elementary students. I heard a lot of positive feedback from students and staff.
2. Middle school department CLT’s have started to work together. They are focusing on gaps in the curriculum and technology.
3. At our upcoming in-service staff will be working in their grade level CLT’s to do item analysis of the Iowa Assessments data.

Submitted by Susan Anderson