

## **November Middle School Board Report**

by Susan Anderson

1. Early out PLC's are focusing on technology integration. One PLC is focusing on the use of Edmodo, which allows teachers to upload links, assignments, and tests all electronically for students. Another PLC is working on Google Drive and the Notability app, which allows them to communicate with students directly and provide immediate feedback through writing assignments. It also allows them to create forms for quick assessment checks. The final PLC is utilizing Doceri and QR codes to provide short tutorial videos for students to access for several different purposes.
2. Conference attendance was down as compared to previous years. We are looking at using the same online procedure for the spring conferences, but then after a specific cut-off date we will mail home slips with a scheduled time for those parents who did not online schedule a time.
3. On November 4, Joanne Wickham, Sarah Updegraff, Michelle Kipp and myself attending the Governor's Bullying Prevention Summit in Des Moines. There were several speakers who focused on different topics related to bullying.
4. Our students competed in Mock Trial at NIACC on Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. There were 24 students competing, five 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and nineteen 7<sup>th</sup> grade students.
5. The Harlem Ambassadors presented for our middle school kids on Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.
6. Mick Gage invited the middle school to attend the Veteran's Day Memorial Dedication today at the courthouse. The students then wrote letters to our Chickasaw County Veteran's thanking them for their dedication and service.
7. Site Visit: I will attend the Department of Education site visit at Riceville this coming Tuesday and Wednesday in preparation for our site visit next year.
8. Ms. Snyder's class has been doing a global read aloud with the book Out of my Mind. Our students will have the unique experience on the 14<sup>th</sup> of having a student from Decorah High School present to our students with the use of a meditalker. They have skyped and blogged with other students regarding the book.
9. Teen Screen will be November 26<sup>th</sup>. It identifies middle school- and high school-aged youth in need of mental health services due to risk for suicide and other mental health concerns. In order to participate, students and parents must give their consent. In our district, we screen grades 8 and 11.
10. Fall/Winter Athletics  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Wrestling: 23 athletes  
7<sup>th</sup> GBB: 18 athletes  
8<sup>th</sup> GBB: 13 athletes