

December Board Meeting
Middle School

1. Washington, D.C. ticket sales have started. Currently, it looks like 49 students will attend and we have had 22 chaperone applications.
2. Our Holiday Vocal Concert is Monday December 16th.
3. Youth Frontiers will be doing a Courage Retreat with our seventh grade students on December 11th. The Chickasaw Community Center donated their facility to us for use.
4. There were 176 teams participating in competitive mock trial at the middle school level throughout the state this year. Iowa has by far the largest middle school program in the nation. Through mock trial, team members gained knowledge of court processes and the law, enhanced their skills in analysis, preparation and presentation, and came away with a heightened appreciation of the rule of law and the role that the legal system plays in our democracy. Our students did a remarkable job! We figure we were one of the top 15 teams. William Thronson received an award for outstanding witness because 2 judges voted for him! He received an award and a medal.
5. Mrs. Frese's 7th grade tech is creating podcasts for 95.1 The Bull, Angela Barton. The object of this project is to make community connections while building 21st Century Skills. Students use iPads to write and edit scripts, email people with questions about their segments, record and edit in Garage Band to finalize their segment. Students choose the subjects and create the music. Everyone records, but there also are different roles in the production including producers, editors, managers and writers. Each group is allowed 1 minute to record, which causes them to select the most important information for their audience. Their audience is Northeast Iowa but the segments focus on New Hampton Middle School, some High School, and some community topics. It challenges them to think about topics beyond the school day and how to communicate with a broader audience. Jason Speltz, New Horizons Chamber has agreed to put posters on Main St. Listen for them every first and third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 pm.