

October 17, 2016

Middle School Board Report

1. Conference letters were sent home at the beginning of October for parents to sign up for times to visit with teachers. Grades 5/6 will have conferences in their rooms and 7/8 will have conferences in the cafeteria.
2. PBIS attended a Year 3 conference at the AEA to begin learning how to implement TIER 3 interventions. The PBIS team has also created a parent survey that will be available to be filled out while waiting for conferences.
3. 8th Grade students will be completing a ditch cleanup in conjunction with the Lions Club. Kristie Brincks and the 8th grade team are coordinating the activity.
4. Megan Gleason, Tammy Robinson, Diane Diirro and I continue to work on finalizing the 8th grade career week. This year, students will learn about small businesses and other larger businesses in the New Hampton area. Students will also complete a job application and do a mock interview for a position. This process will help students understand about career clusters in New Hampton and begin them thinking about their future in high school and beyond.
5. The Wellness committee organized a Walk to School day on October 5th. We had several students participate by walking from Mikkelson Park as well as from the high school. We also will continue the white milk on Wednesday's program started this year to promote less sugar consumption. Students were also introduced to vegetables and hummus during lunch by Shelby Henkelman, our Americorp wellness representative.
6. Our teachers began our Project Based Learning (PBL) professional development thinking about how we can incorporate the ideas into our Midmester PBL Academy. The basic components of the Midmester Academy classes include:
 - a strong focus on teamwork;
 - a real-world application of what students are learning;
 - problem-solving skills to help answer the driving question for each class;
 - innovative supports such as unique scheduling and team teaching.