



# Scranton Attendance Center

## Board of Education Report

### May 2014

To: Dr. Steve Pegram, Superintendent  
From: Mrs. Jennifer Hanni, Principal  
Date: May 9, 2014  
Re: May BOE Report

The following is a summary of the activities and news at the Scranton Attendance Center for the month of April and May.

#### **Night at the Museum**

On Wednesday, April 16, SAC hosted our annual art show and music concerts. Each student's artwork from throughout the year was on display, as well as various student classroom work decorated our halls. We had a collection of projects completed on the iPads showing in the cafeteria, along with a photo slideshow of many of the great activities at SAC throughout the year. Once parents and friends had viewed this terrific work, they headed to the gym for each of the concerts. The 4<sup>th</sup>-grade program showcased the various music styles of America, including air guitar performances. The 3<sup>rd</sup>-grade program centered around "Making a Difference," and to help follow that idea, they collected 918 bath goods to donate to the Silverbacks organization. It was a great night that showcased the numerous talents of SAC students.

#### **Fuel Up to Play 60 Reward Summit and Assembly**

On May 1, ten SAC students travelled to Arrowhead Stadium to participate in the Fuel Up to Play 60 Reward Summit, sponsored by the NFL and the Midwest Dairy Association. The ten students were selected for their full participation in our school's Fuel Up to Play 60 program, as they met each quarter's goals. During the reward summit, students completed football drills on the field at Arrowhead Stadium, including taking a handoff from pro-bowler Eddie Tennyson, learned about dairy farms firsthand, enjoyed a healthy breakfast and lunch, and competed in a Family Food game that tested their knowledge of nutrition. It was a fantastic day to celebrate fitness, healthy food, and active choices.

On Friday, May 9, SAC held their final Fuel Up to Play 60 quarter reward assembly to honor those students who had met their activity goal for this 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Students received Going Bonkers passes and several other goodies, as well as the chance to play basketball against the SAC staff. We'd really like to thank Lisa Crook for her leadership and promotion of this program that encourages healthy living.

#### **Field Trip to Fawl Farms**

On April 15, all 4<sup>th</sup> grade students travelled a little down the road to Fawl Farms as a follow up activity to their Midwest living reading unit, thanks to a grant from Pioneer Farms. They had learned about the many uses of soybeans and farming life earlier this quarter, and took advantage of planting season and spring weather to go see some of this information live. They were able to get up close and personal with some of the farm machinery and touch the earth with their hands, and were treated with an ice cream treat before heading home. We're happy to provide these real-world and hands-on activities for our students.

## **Assessments and Data**

The month of April was one of assessments to gauge the progress our students have made throughout this school year. We took the ACT Aspire tests in the beginning of the month, which included timed tests for reading, writing, English, math, and science. We hope to see these results in the next couple of weeks, and they will be discussed at P/T Conferences next fall. We then moved on to the state assessments for reading and math, and because we waited, we did not experience as many of the technical problems that plagued many others. We learned from both of these assessments that we will continue to need to push deeper and reach higher levels of learning and thinking with our content. Toward the end of the month we took our curriculum assessments to get a picture of growth throughout this year. It was exciting to see the results of these tests, including a student who grew 34% points in reading, and an entire class grow 20%+ on math standards. We just wrapped up this testing and will have data to report at the next meeting, including our reading tier and percentage of students reading on grade level.

## **Student Projects**

In addition to assessing students' performance on various assessments, students also displayed their knowledge through a variety of projects. All 4<sup>th</sup> grade students finished their studies of the 50 states by creating a float that they paraded around the halls of the school. Students in Mrs. Fawl's class did an in-depth research project on the state of Hawaii, and showed off all they learned by hosting a luau for their families, including educational stations. Several 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students spent the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter participating in "genius hour" where they chose a topic they wanted to know more about and then created a project to showcase what they learned. Projects ranged from a model showing the distance of each planet to the sun to a foil model of the human eye to a family tree of Greek gods and goddesses to an infographic comparing and contrasting the different features of a tyrannosaurus rex and a nanosaurus. And these projects are just a few of the fantastic hands-on activities completed. Classes used their math skills to design the most efficient playground, their technology skills and iPad apps to display their findings researching an animal, and their science skills to decide which brand of paper towel was the most absorbent. It was incredible to see what these students could do!

## **Summer Professional Development**

While the last school bell rings on May 15<sup>th</sup>, the teachers just aren't ready to finish up their work. Both grade level teams will come back the following week to wrap up our review of this year's data and begin planning curriculum needs for next year. On May 13<sup>th</sup>, three teachers will attend a BYOC user's group meeting to discuss and refresh their ideas on using this online tool. We will use this knowledge the week after school dismisses to review our work with math and begin our week on our English language arts curriculum. Several teachers will also be attending the MSP Grant workshops this July where they will continue their work on using manipulatives in the math classroom, as well as other in-depth techniques. These opportunities are just a few of many ways our staff will continue to grow and develop their skills over the summer.