

To: Dr. Steve Pegram, Superintendent  
From: Mr. Michael Flax, Principal  
Date: 1 December 2014  
Re: December BOE Report

Activity Update – This week marks the end of the wrestling season. The wrestlers will travel to Perry for a meet on December 2 to complete their schedule. We started the season with 27 wrestlers and 1 manager. At this time there are still 22 students wrestling and 2 managers. Coaches Patrick Graham is finishing his third season and Joshua Cauthon his fourth with the SFTJH team. 21 seventh grade and 13 eighth grade girls have participated in basketball this winter. Two managers have assisted the team as well. The girls will finish their season on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December with home games vs. Central Heights. December finds the teams with three home games and one away. The girls are coached by Nicole Prochaska, Cindy Moulin, Elizabeth Olorunfemi, and Hannah Hicks. Boys' basketball practice begins December 9, with only two practice days that week and a full week to follow.

Aspire – We are waiting somewhat impatiently for the results of the Aspire tests. We completed them during the last week of October, and the wait time is between thirty and forty-five days. Hopefully we will have them before the Christmas break. Some of our second semester scheduling will hinge on student results, so the sooner we have those in hand the sooner we can get those student schedules altered. Some students who might need extra support based on the data from testing will be placed in a support class rather than another elective. I am looking forward to seeing what the results of these tests look like, as it is the first time we are using this testing format. I believe we will be reporting out these test results and other building test data to the BOE in January.

Building Improvement Plan – We continue to look at the Building Improvement Plan to drive our focus this year. Data collection and analysis is an area we are asking faculty to address with impact on teaching expected to follow. Each teacher has been charged with collecting student growth data in their classes. Teachers select an assessment to be given periodically (by unit, chapter, workshop, etc.) to measure individual student growth as well as class progress on a given set of standards. Those standards would be what body of work was taught during that period of time. Teachers have been directed to provide me with their data before they leave for the winter holiday break. This will be compiled and shared with you at the first of next semester.

BYOC - We are working hard to complete more classes on the BYOC project, as we plan to go live with the site at the end of the semester. The district BYOC leadership team (called the BYOC Users Group) meets monthly with the goal of reviewing the work of individual teachers and grade level teams. We have a few courses that have been reviewed and approved for publication. Several courses are under revision after the Users Group sent them back to the teachers with suggestions for change. We hope to look them over again next Monday during the Users Group meeting. The teachers on the Users Group have really taken ownership in the BYOC process. They have been very good leaders and advocates for creating a document that the district can really use and continue to develop. Greenbush leadership was very complimentary to our team regarding how we are managing the process and working towards a living document for other districts to use as a model. District administration plans to communicate with parents and patrons about the BYOC work and how they can utilize it.

Food Drive - The student council managed a food drive before Thanksgiving. Students were challenged to contribute a total of 800 food items to be distributed to needy families at Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays. The students more than met that goal, bringing in more than 1500 items of food. That is enough food, in addition to the donated turkeys from the Carbondale Thriftway, to provide for the identified families. The leftover food items have been placed in storage in the building. We are regularly notified

of or contacted about students and families who do not have enough food. As those notices come in, Mrs. Maggie Mead, Mrs. Kristy Hamit or I will determine what part of the "food bank" will be sent home with those students. This will not be made public, but we do hope to find a way to sustain this activity throughout the winter.

Reward - At the outset of the food drive we motivated students with a reward for meeting the building goal. The grade level who contributed the most items was awarded ice cream following lunch one day last week. That was won by the sixth grade, and they enjoyed gloating about their reward. This Thursday all of the grade levels will be rewarded with a movie and treats. The seventh and eighth grade students will watch in the morning in place of second and third hours of class. The fifth and sixth graders will have their movies and treats on Thursday afternoon. The student council has done a great job with leadership this year, and this is just the latest of their projects. Big thanks to Mrs. Maggie Mead and Mrs. Tina McIver for their work on this food drive.

Discipline – We continue to see an increase in office referrals due to student misbehavior. Collaboration meetings are taking place to discuss student issues as well as curriculum. There are several students who have had multiple referrals over the course of the year. A second quarter discipline report will be made in the next BOE report.

Congrats to Allison and Jeff Folger on the birth of their son, Simon Chadwick Folger, who was born on November 25.

Submitted by Michael Flax  
1 December 2014