

To: Dr. Steve Pegram, Superintendent
From: Mr. Michael Flax, Principal
Date: 8 May 2015
Re: BOE Report

The following is a report of the activities and events at the Carbondale Attendance Center and Santa Fe Trail Junior High for the end of the 2014-2015 school year..

Activities Update –We are winding down the sports season just in time for the end of the school year. The league track meet was scheduled for today, May 7, but was postponed due to the rainy weather. It has been rescheduled for next Monday at Central Heights. That will be the last sporting event of the season. The annual Field Day for K-6 students was also postponed this week due to rain. We held a 5-6 Field Day at the football field in Carbondale on Thursday. Students spent two hours rotating among eight activities planned by Mrs. Chiddix and run off by several seventh grade students. The postponement of the track meet required a change in date for the seventh grade fourth quarter celebration trip to the Ed and Gretta Hug farm. The seventh grade will head to the farm on the last day of school for a four-hour country day. On Monday the fifth grade will celebrate the end of the year with an outdoor day. The sixth grade will head to Topeka next Monday for a skate day and then lunch at the lake. The calendar ending so early in May makes for a very busy last week and a half of school.

Eighth Grade Students – In the last BOE report I mentioned that we had several eighth grade students who were hovering on the pass/fail line for their core classes. Most of them pulled themselves out of danger earlier in April by meeting with teachers and getting all possible late work and makeup work in. The fate of three students was not decided until this last week of school. Only one of the students did not meet the requirements to move on to the high school next year. Dr. Pegram became involved in a conversation with the parent of that student, and the parent determined that homeschooling the student the last week of school was the best option. That student withdrew from school on Tuesday. The rest of the eighth grade students will be promoted to ninth grade. The eighth graders will travel to Worlds of Fun on Tuesday for their annual trip.

Invitation – By the time you read this we will probably have completed the annual Eighth Grade Recognition Ceremony, held Friday, May 8. For those of you who attended and participated, I thank you for that. For those unable to attend, I am sure you missed a wonderful event. ☺ Thank you all for your support of our students, staff, and administration this year.

State Assessments – We have begun the state assessment process, and students have been actively testing for the past week and a half. We will be done with these by the end of April for the most part. I won't editorialize about my feelings towards these assessments, but each student will be engaged in at least 11 testing sessions when it is all said and done. Some grade levels have even more sessions. Unfortunately the state will not be able to provide results for us until sometime this summer. We would like to use the data collected for teacher determination and adaptation of teaching, but I am not sure how useful the information will be during this first year of the revised state assessments.

End of Year Staff Development Days – A proposal was sent to the district administrative staff for our two days of staff development next week. At Carbondale we plan to spend some time reviewing the five goal areas of this year's building improvement plan, with a transition for the plan we will write for next year. An introduction to four of the five target areas of the new accreditation requirements will be given, as our building improvement plan will be built around those for the next five years. Administration has not

received training on the requirements or the rubrics to be used; that is scheduled for summer administrative work. However, the rubrics have been released for four of those goal areas. We will also spend some time with BYOC, a celebration of our successes from this year, department and grade level collaboration, individual goal reviews, and a transition meeting between the fourth and fifth grade teachers regarding the students moving over. Each year I require my staff to participate in exit interviews in a face to face meeting with me. This year I have elected to do that electronically. I have received feedback on my four questions from several of the staff. The submission of this exit interview response is part of the building checkout procedure.

Staff Changes – We are replacing several members of our staff for next year. Interviews for two of those positions are planned. Mr. Scott Adams is leaving us as a special education instructor. Mrs. Sandra Bullock, our school nurse, has taken a job with the Osage County Health Department. She will complete her contract here. Mrs. Tina McIver is also leaving the 3-Lakes Cooperative. She has served as our gifted facilitator, and will be teaching English at Council Grove High School. There are several special education paraprofessionals who might possibly be leaving us. I will wait until official notice of those before announcing anything. I am planning for the potential transfer/reassignment of Mrs. Kristy Hamit. She will be missed greatly, as will all of the staff who are leaving us.

Discipline Report – As of this writing, the fourth quarter has seen 34 office referrals which required action other than my redirection. Those 34 referrals are spread out fairly evenly among the four grade levels. 25 of those resulted in detentions; 7 of those served in-school suspensions; and 2 of them were bus referrals.

Report submitted by Michael Flax
Friday, April 1, 2015