

TO: Dr. Steve Pegram  
FROM: Mr. Michael Flax  
Date: 2 December 2015  
RE: December BOE Report

The following is a summary of building activities and reports for the months of November and December.

Activities Update – The wrestling team wrapped up their season on Tuesday, December 1 with a triangular at Shawnee Heights Middle School. Perry-Lecompton was the third school participating. The season went well, with many wrestlers improving their skills from the start of the season to the end. Almost all wrestlers finished the schedule having won at least one match. The basketball teams will finish their season next Thursday with a game at Central Heights. With games yet on December 3, 8, and 10 there are several opportunities for more wins. Both seventh and eighth grade girls have had success during the season. Boys' basketball practice will begin on Thursday, December 10.

StuCo Activities – Student Council remains very active at this building. They sponsored a well-organized Hunger Games Food Drive contest among the grade levels prior to Thanksgiving. The kickoff skit and video were both produced and performed by the students in StuCo. Students in fifth grade won the donation competition. Then, in conjunction with turkeys donated by the Carbondale Thriftway, much of this food was distributed to four local families in order to provide them with meals for the entirety of the Thanksgiving Break from school. We will use some of the food for the Christmas baskets that we send with students over the holiday break as well. Additionally, last year we created a food bank, with food items collected to be distributed to families in need throughout the year. As any of the staff hears about families in need, contact is made and food is offered. For December, StuCo has selected Hope as the word of the month. Many of our activities and character education addresses during the morning assembly will be around that word. Candy cane sales will also take place for one week in mid-December. Mrs. Maggie Mead is our StuCo sponsor, and she is doing a great job with them.

Music Programs – On Tuesday evening, November 24, the seventh and eighth grade band and choir students performed in the district auditorium. Both classes rescheduled their original concert dates due to conflicts in the calendar. The auditorium was full, with a standing room only crowd. All four groups performed with a slight break between the choirs and the bands so risers for the vocalists could be removed and chairs for the bands set up. On December 7, the sixth grade students will be hosting a concert there as well. Both the band and choir students will perform. Mrs. Jarrett and Mr. Quilling both continue to prepare the students for quality performances. I believe that after the sixth grade concert we will be without the services of Mr. Jaron Marcus, our accompanist for the past few years. He is leaving us to pursue an advanced

degree in music. Also, Mr. Jeff Jewsome has been a fine addition to the instrumental music programming in our building.

Christmas Sing – On Tuesday, December 22, we will again be celebrating the holidays with our annual Christmas Sing! The tradition of this includes performances by our two junior high vocal music groups, as well as the entire audience singing some traditional holiday carols. Class competitions in games and activities are included, and occasionally members of the faculty and staff perform special musical numbers. Lots of fun is had, and Mrs. Jarrett never fails to plan a really spirited celebration for our entire building to share. You are all invited to join us for this activity. We begin at about 9:00 and spend about an hour and a half in the celebration.

PDC – The professional development council is spending some time at the next meeting (December 9) planning for the February staff development day. With the help of Michael Koonce at Greenbush, we have created a survey for staff to complete online to provide the council with staff input on their perceptions of staff development needs. We will be able to review the results of this survey at the meeting. The survey was designed with questions to target individual concerns and grade level and department needs as well. We are attempting to provide necessary training and resources for the staff to continue implementing the district curriculum in alignment with the CCRS.

Veteran's Day Assembly – On Wednesday, November 11 we hosted the annual Veteran's Day Assembly in the gym. Mr. Ed Hug planned the activity, and we invited all local veterans to attend and participate. Our guest speaker was retired Lt. Col. Michael Slusser. Several members of our staff have military personnel in their families, and we were honored to host those folks as well as the other veterans who joined us. Our four junior high music groups performed, and Mrs. Lari Jarrett lead us in the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance. The Overbrook American Legion presented the colors and posted the flags. Mrs. Sally Riggs, art instructor, manages a Veteran's Day poster contest. All entries are displayed throughout week leading up to the assembly, and winners are announced during the program. Following the playing of Taps by Mr. Jeff Jewsome, the guests were invited to a tea and cookie reception in the cafeteria. This is one of our best events of the year, and thanks go to Mr. Hug for keeping this a rich and rewarding experience every year.

[Submitted by Michael Flax](#)