

Carbondale Attendance Center / Santa Fe Trail Junior High School
BOE Report –March 2017

The following is a report of the activities and events at the Carbondale Attendance Center / Santa Fe Trail Junior High for February and March 2017.

PTO – Mrs. Emily Ramsdell, PTO President, has her crew working hard to provide some opportunities for our students district-wide. Tomorrow we will all be wearing new Charger Pride t-shirts as we celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday. PTO sponsored the Read-a-thon these past couple of weeks. I do not know what amount of money was raised by our students reading, but it seemed to be a sizeable amount the last time I spoke with Emily. We are having a guest speaker tomorrow and a photographer will be here to take class pictures for us. I want to thank all the PTO members who have been working this year for our students and teachers. By the way, Emily is a Carbondale and Santa Fe Trail graduate. It is great to have her as the organization leader.

Activities – The basketball season is complete. The seventh grade team showed much improvement from the start of the season, and ended with a record of 2-12. The eighth graders competed well most of the season. They finished with a record of 8-6. Thanks to coaches Lance Quilling, Jim Duncan, and Josh Lamb for their work with the boys. So as soon as basketball was done, quiz bowl began. We hosted the first tournament of the year this past Monday. 32 teams from 8 schools participated. We entered three seventh grade teams and three eighth grade teams. Most of the teams experienced some success in winning head to head competitions. None, however, made the finals. We have two away events in a row, and then we finish our season at home on March 14. Coaches Gretta Hug and Courtnee Maichel are practicing with the students throughout the weeks, and students are always excited to compete. Before we can even put the quiz bowl buzzers away the track kids will start to practice. The opening date for practice is March 9. There will be a track parent meeting shortly after spring break on March 27.

8th Grade Parent Meetings – Mrs. Mead, Mrs. Hamit and I have been meeting with each of the eighth graders and their parents. The focus of these hour-long meetings is to review the data from the Aspire tests they took in the fall and to provide them with information about high school enrollment. We have all been very pleased with the meetings, and hope that the parents and students have found them helpful. We want to truly prepare students for their lifework, and that begins as they enroll in high school classes. Every teacher in grades 4-8 will host parent teacher conferences on Monday, March 13 and Thursday, March 16 from 4:00-7:00. The elementary teachers were allowed to veer from this schedule, as they will schedule the dates and times to meet with the parents. All grades 7-8 teachers will be available on those dates and times for meeting with parents.

Track – The track team will be practicing most days at the high school track. We will get information out to parents from the coaches very soon. There will be a couple of days when we will keep them here to practice. Otherwise they will be bused over to SFTHS (with coaches riding

the buses with them), practice, and then shuttled back to OAC, SAC and CAC after practices. We have a great track facility at the high school, and with 80+ athletes from here it only makes good sense to practice out there. I appreciate that Dr. Pegram is making this happen. Also, appreciation goes out to Mr. Jim Mercer for always making sure we have transportation.

Bullying – We are dealing with some cyber-bullying and sexting among our students. I have enlisted the help of Maggie Mead, Jackie Beatty and Derrick Feliciano in instructing students of the legal issues and district policies on these topics. I am anticipating some less than positive reaction from parents, and that some will not hear this news well. I will keep you posted.

Submitted by Michael Flax
1 March 2017