



Carbondale Attendance Center and Santa Fe Trail Junior High

Board of Education Report

September 2018

To: Dr. Steve Pegram, Superintendent and Board of Education

From: Mrs. Kristy Hamit, Principal and Mr. TJ Meyer, Assistant Principal/Activities Director

Date: September 6

Re: September BOE Report

The following is a snippet of the beginning of the year activities at the Carbondale Attendance Center. We definitely hit the ground running.

Enrollment: The building enrollment is up approximately 30 students from last school year. Our student count is as follows: 4th-grade-77, 5th-grade-85, 6th-grade-62, 7th-grade-92, and 8th-grade-76 for a total of 392. One 7th-grade student is attending Project Plus at Forbes Field and we have four students at Three Lakes Frameworks program, a 6th-grader, two 7th-graders, and one 8th-grader.

SPED Staff: Sheila Payne is taking leave time this first semester as the family is dealing with Zach's leukemia treatment. The CAC SPED staff have really been working together to assure all students needs are being met. TLEC hired a full-time sub that did not work out but we now have Linda Cunningham that will be coming in a couple of days a week to help cover the elementary students so Ms. Hay can spend some more time with her junior high caseload.

The Leader In Me: Carbondale's activity period, now called Charger Time, has been moved to the morning during which time Seven-Habits lessons are taught and junior high students get a ten-minute brain break allowing all students the opportunity for movement. Because time is so limited, teachers are working through The First Eight Days lessons but it may take the entire first semester to complete the activities teachers feel are really important.

Some of the teachers are starting to implement classroom roles and we hope that by the end of the first semester school wide roles may be in place. Each elementary class is paired up with a junior high Charger Time class as Bolt Buddies. As an introductory activity, Carbondale had a First Friday Picnic and Bolt Buddies ate lunch together and had the opportunity to visit. The teachers have been asked to work together and Buddy up every so often to help build the relationship between the younger and older students in the building. The hope is to have an opportunity for Bolt Buddies to have lunch at least once a quarter.

Curriculum/Assessment: We are now using the Fastbridge program instead of AIMSweb to screen and progress monitor students in grades four through six in math and reading. Carrie Hawks does a great job training and supporting the staff through this process. The elementary teachers are now using the Freckle platform to support the curriculum in reading and math with a few using the program for social studies and science as well. With this being a new

option we are still in the learning process but hope Freckle will be a beneficial investment for our students. We are investigating using ACT Periodic Interim or Classroom assessments for grades seven and eight. Hopefully we can get a decision made and the process started soon.

Sports: The junior high football and volleyball teams began competitions on August 30th. Unfortunately the Cross Country meet was cancelled due to wet conditions. There are 15 junior high Cross Country runners, 31 seventh-grade and 17 eighth-grade football players, and 17 seventh-grade and 14 eighth-grade volleyball players. Due to the large number of seventh-grade football players, Mr. Meyer has arranged for at least one C-team game opportunity against Osage City to get all players more field time. The eighth-grade volleyball girls have great spirit on the court and on the bench, they are fun to watch. Results from the first competitions are listed below.

Football vs. Wellsville – 7th won, 8th lost / vs. Anderson Co. – 7th won, 8th won

Volleyball vs. Jeff West – 7A lost, 7B won, 8A won, 8B lost / vs. Prairie View – 7A lost, 7B lost, 8A lost, 8B lost

Cross County results from Lyndon meet: Four 7th-graders and ten 8th-graders compete and finished the course at the first meet held at Melvern Lake. They all have the first completion under their belts and goals for improvement at next week's competition.

Visitors at CAC: Students and staff at CAC got to experience the presentation of the US Honor Flag on Wednesday, September 5th. Thank you to Kayla Chiddix for helping arrange this amazing opportunity that was heart-touching for all. There is a great story behind the US Honor Flag. Fifth-grade student Bryson Crotinger and Officer Rick Hamm helped with the flag sharing process.

Several high school Kansas Association of Youth members visited with junior high students on Friday, September 7 answering questions as SFTJH is preparing to start-up a JH KAY club. We are excited about this opportunity for our students and how the two clubs can work collaboratively on community service projects.

STAR BASE 2.0: Fifth-grade students have been participating in the STARBASE program at Forbes Field for many years. The Department of Defense Youth Program is now offering an afterschool opportunity for students in grades six through eight that provides a unique STEM mentoring program. Wednesday, September 5th was the CAC STARBASE 2.0 kick-off day. Currently our group has nine active students and four community volunteers. More students can be added throughout the semester if there is interest and we can secure additional volunteers. Robotics is the first topic students will be exploring.

National Holidays: In an effort to get more student school-wide involvement, classes have been asked to research and promote national holidays. Each elementary and Charger Time class have chosen one or two holidays of interest to them and are making plans on how to involve the rest of the school in recognizing the occasion. The first two holidays we will be recognizing are National Star Trek Day on September 8th and National Video Game Day on September 12th. There are many interesting holidays yet to be observed!