CAMERON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Board Report – November 18, 2013

Educator Effectiveness Update – All teachers assigned to CMS have submitted their SLO (Student Learning Objective) for the Educator Effectiveness pilot project. SLOs are designed to measure student growth (See example below). In discussing and approving SLOs the principals use the acronym SMART (Specific, Measurable, Appropriate, Realistic, Time-limited) as a measuring stick for approval. In addition, probationary teachers are near completion of the Learner Survey Growth Plans and Self Assessments. I have begun the process of informal and formal observations and have met collectively and individually with teachers several times. Sample SLO - Using the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark System, all fifth grade students were tested at the beginning of the school year. The 38 students who tested at levels L-R will move four or more reading levels by the end of the school year. The 20 students who tested at levels S-U will move two or more reading levels by the end of the school year. The 2 students who tested at levels at level V or higher, will maintain or move one or more levels by the end of the school year.

New SLD (Specific Learning Disability) Law Team Meetings – Mrs. Knickerbocker has been holding SLD Law Team meetings at each of the schools to discuss the requirements of the law and look into scientific research based and evidence based interventions that meet the SLD criteria. This law is separate from RtI but will help us in planning our intervention strategies.

CMS Learning Leadership Team Meetings – We held a CMS Learning Leadership Team meeting on November 6. At the meeting we discussed the new SLD law, student learning interventions and how to best use our Learning Labs for student growth. The next meeting will be held on December 4.

American Education Week November 18-22 – We are celebrating American Education Week with classroom bingo and treats throughout the week.

Parent/Teacher Conferences – We had parent/teacher conferences on November 7 and 12. 5th and 6th grade conferences were pre-arranged and held in individual teacher classrooms. 7th and 8th grade conferences were held auditorium style in the cafetorium.

End of First Trimester – The end of the first trimester is Nov. 22. Report cards will be mailed the next week. The middle school went to trimesters as a result of our Scheduling Committee and the changes that were made from their discussions.

Testing – We had WKCE exams for all CMS students at the end of October and in early November. Our staff made several accommodations to give our students the best possible chance to do well on their exams. These tests are a very important indicator of student and school performance.

Holiday Concert – Our middle school Holiday concert will be held on Tuesday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. Our concert is one day after the CHS program to alleviate overcrowding.

Veteran's Day Program – We had a 5-12 Veteran's Day program on Monday, November 11. Several members of the Cameron American Legion were present. Our visiting veterans have always been very complimentary of our student body.

Book Fair – Mrs. Longmire and Mrs. Voelker did an excellent job setting up our annual book fair in the CMS LMC. The fair was open to all students and also available to parents throughout the week of parent/teacher conferences.