

Browning Middle School Board Report

April 2017

Positives:

We welcomed our two newest BMS staff members in March. Mr. Robert Lerma replaced Carla Whitegrass who went to the high school to teach special education. Mr. Lerma, a former BHS teacher, is teaching 7th grade language arts. We also have a new PCA, Cherie Rattler, who will be working with the students in Mrs. Murphy's room.

Curriculum/Instruction:

We have visits from many consultants this month. Barry Sevett and Bruce Ahlborn were here to help with full implementation of our Apple ConnectEd grant. Brenda LeBrasse was at BMS working with our SRI Grant team and to train our Read 180 teacher. Mel Riddile came with her, and he had some great ideas to improve instruction, which I have already presented to the staff. Treve Brinkman was in our building to work with our Math 180 teacher. Becky Giles was also here working with our System 44 teachers. It is amazing to have all these experts come in and work on strengthening instruction at BMS.

We completed our Science CRT testing, and tested almost 100% of our 8th graders, thanks in great part to the efforts of our test coordinator, Violet Sinclair, and our test make-up administrator, Brenda Kramer. Although our 8th grade had poor attendance in March, these two ladies managed to get almost every student to complete the test. We have had three different science teachers in the 8th grade this year, but they were all good teachers. I am hoping that despite the lack of continuity in the room, we will see good results on the test.

Activities/Sports:

Wrestling had an awesome season, with many students placing at the tournament. The coaches are really great about instilling discipline and drive into their wrestlers.

Track has started and we are already seeing good results at the track meets. We are well-represented in the running, jumping, and throwing events.

The team leaders group hosted the Native Youth MBI group out of Yakima, WA. They had a great time with this positive group of students, and developed some strong friendships in a very short period of time.

Attendance:

March brought some of the worst attendance we've had in years. We continue to work very hard to get students to school. Joey Brown and Sheila Rutherford have been making regular home visits, we have attendance recognition on a quarterly basis, and we are utilizing outside resources to try and improve our attendance. Next year I plan on having one of our counselors really focus on student attendance and see what we can do to positively encourage students to come to school on a regular basis. Joey does a great job, but I think she could use some help. It is an overwhelming job at times to keep track of all our students.

March attendance:

7th grade 76%

8th grade 73%

Total 74.75%

Behavior:

Below are our referral numbers so far:

Type	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
# extreme	0	5	0	6	1	2	1	7
# major	0	20	12	12	3	5	7	14
# minor	2	78	70	86	50	78	34	50
Total	2	103	82	104	54	85	42	71

As compared to last year at this time:

Type	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
# extreme	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	0
# major	1	9	13	10	12	8	13	12
# minor	8	109	128	60	59	57	106	63
Total	10	118	142	71	72	66	121	75