

7-12 Principal's Report November 2019

Curriculum & Instruction: We continue to work on instruction in all classrooms using our instructional framework. We have dressed up our instructional framework to be more eye appealing and every classroom has a copy and it is posted. This way students know what is going to happen in the classroom and the expectations. We continue to work on explicit instruction with our teachers. The instructional coach is working individually with those teachers who need assistance. Moving forward, this will continue to be an area of work and monitoring.

We are promoting our tutoring for any subject after school from 3:30-5:00 pm Monday through Thursday. Our tutoring has worked, as many student-athletes were able to meet the eligibility standard of a 73% "C" for a quarter grade in each class. However, we do not have the number of students participating in the after school tutoring as we did last year at this time. We will begin providing an after school snack to those who stay for tutoring as many stay later to attend practices. We will continue to provide this support to our students so that they can be successful in their courses for the semester.

We began work looking at our graduation requirements to determine if the requirements need to be changed, increased, or simply re-aligned. The teachers have been working at using the GTCC curriculum standard in their specific content areas and aligning the resources (textbooks and other materials) to the standards to ensure that all the appropriate grade level standards are being met during the year. We discovered that the 8th grade science curriculum is physical science rather than earth science. Therefore, we are looking at making drastic changes at semester in the materials and resources that are being used to meet the 8th grade GTCC science curriculum standards.

We will be scheduling our Mock ACT tests after the first of the new year. We will also be working with students after school to hone their test taking skills, and refresh vocabulary, mathematics, and English skills prior to the regular exam in April.

Supervision & Evaluation: Teachers are standing outside of their classrooms greeting students as they enter more; however, we would also like to increase this percentage for all classes throughout the day. We continue to work with teachers in developing routines/procedures, classroom management, and student engagement. Student engagement is extremely important since engaged students are more likely to perform well on standardized tests and less likely to drop out. Therefore, our students have a lot to gain from valuable student engagement. We will continue to work at reaching our goals in this area.

Teachers were trained to track accelerated growth and individualized goals using the Renaissance STAR program in math and reading. Teachers are now able to meet with students and develop goals that will support student growth in these areas.

I completed all non-tenured teacher/counselor evaluations. After completing the evaluation, I met with each instructor individually to discuss strengths and weaknesses.

Culture & Language: Our Teepee Mondays continue and this month we had students sing in Cree and perform the flag song during our time. We will continue to encourage students to share their cultural talents during this time.

We had our Winter Concert and Fine Arts Show which displayed the students work from junior high and high school art classes, and the industrial arts classes (wood and metal). The junior high music class sang a number of holiday songs chosen by the students. We also had four male music students perform two cultural songs with drums. Finally, the interior design class decorated all the tables and foyer area while the culinary arts classes baked cookies to give to all who attended the program.

We also have a group that are meeting after school with a tutor and working on cultural singing, recordings, and drums.

Behavior Management: Handbook policies continue to be enforced.

Our "STAR Awards" are given to students who demonstrate behaviors which support our four MBI pillars (Graduate, Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Safe) every Monday.

Our class attendance continues to be a struggle. However, the 8th grade was the highest this past month with 82.37%. The 7th grade was second with 80.13%, a 3.5% decrease. The Freshmen took 3rd with a decrease of 2.67% and an overall attendance rate of 79.40%. Finally, the Seniors had 78.57%, the Sophomores had 74.60%, and the Juniors were last with 74.48%. We need to do better with student attendance overall. I would like to see all classes at 85% or higher.

Students of the month - November: Tristan Gopher and Taireice Oats.

Daily Management: Work continues with Infinite Campus. We are running eligibility reports every Monday and Thursday. The student portal and student logins have been worked on so that students will be able to login and look at attendance and grades for themselves. We are working on the parent portal. However, we have a few items to finish before the parent portal will be opened. We plan to have an assembly to instruct students on using the student portal.

Our Student Success Team continues to meet to help support students who are at the highest risk of dropping out or who are extremely struggling. The team meets to discuss methods and activities that may be of assistance to these students. We monitor the student progress and make adjustments as needed.

Current enrollment for Jr. High - 85 students, High School - 141 students, Total enrollment 7/12 - 226 students. High school basketball practice began November 21 for both boys and girls. The Native American Classic was a success for both boys and girls. The boys won both their games against Box Elder and St. Ignatious and the girls won one game against St. Ignatious. The junior high boys' basketball season came to a close this past weekend with our 7th grade team losing to Browning and the 8th grade team forfeiting against Choteau. Neither team will be playing in the final four tournament next weekend in Havre.