



# Waterville-Elysian-Morristown

ISD #2143

Greetings School Board Members,

The first few weeks of school at W.E.M Middle School have been going tremendously well. I have enjoyed walking the halls and visiting classrooms to see so many unique experiences of relationship building and learning. Two very important things we provide for our students at school. Here are a few updates from the Middle School:

- **BUCS Pride Expectations:** I was extremely impressed with the PBIS committee's plan to teach and explain BUCS Pride Expectations and routines throughout the first two weeks of school. I have never seen such a unique, in depth plan to teach students expectations than what I saw these past two weeks. These lessons and experiences set the tone for our students and staff to have a successful 2024-25 school year.
- **Student vs. Staff Competitions:** A highlight of mine the first week of school was introducing a new addition to our all school assemblies which will consist of student vs. staff competitions throughout the school year. We will celebrate positive behavior by recognizing "Rockstar" students at these all school assemblies and then drawing names for these Rockstar students to participate in a competition against some staff members. Unfortunately, the students took down the teachers in the first competition of the year, but the experience of friendly competition, cheering for one another, and celebrating positive behavior was a perfect ending to everyone's week!
- **School Newscast:** Two STEAM classes will be working on a project throughout the quarter to write, direct, film, and produce a school "newscast" for our school that each homeroom will start their day with watching. These newscasts will serve as our morning announcements and broadcast important information for students to know and include fun topics and segments for enjoyment. The engagement, learning, and creativity I've seen in this classroom has been outstanding!
- **Homeroom Visits:** During the 2nd week of school I started visiting homerooms to get to know the students and play a game with their class. It has definitely been one of the best parts of each of my days to go into rooms and interact with our students in a fun and positive way. It is a goal of our school this year to start each day with a Homeroom time dedicated to getting us settled in for the day and provide intentional, positive interaction between our students and staff.

Thank you,  
Myles Knutson