

Report to the Board

Fort Vannoy School

October 31, 2011

The 2010-2011 school year started with lots of activities and events. Once again our PTA has been highly supportive and active, planning events for the school. The teachers have been busy learning to use new technology and methods, including a new Math curriculum in K-2 and special education.

Fort Vannoy is sponsoring two Eagle Scout projects. One was completed on October 31, 2011 and the other is on-going. Dan Wiley, a senior at NVHS completed a seating area at the beginning of the Nature Trail. Teachers can have their students sit comfortable and write, draw or listen to instructions before starting on the trail. The second Eagle Scout project, being done by Landon Harris, will upgrade the trail and label the plants along the trail.

We had excellent parent participation in our Open House on September 21st and over 95% attendance at conferences the following month. Teachers have continued to make contact with parents and are determined to have 100% parent contact.

We are very proud of our student attendance! Fort Vannoy had the highest percentage increase in attendance from September 2010 to September 2011. We also had the highest overall attendance of any school in Three Rivers School District for the month of September. Our Family Advocate, Theresa Ogden, is taking a more active role in contacting families and helping to bring about school success and better attendance now that she has an hour more time each day to make phone calls and follow up on concerns.

We have a very successful SMART (Start Making a Reader Today) program coordinated by retired TRSD teacher Carol Strode. Thirty-one volunteers are serving 60 students each week in grades 1-3.

Exciting programs for the students have been The Bug Man for first graders, the Bee Lady for third graders and special art lessons for fifth grade students taught by retired TRSD teacher Peggy Woodruff.

The second annual Fall Festival, held on Halloween, was great fun. Parents and volunteers, including the cheerleaders from NVHS, worked the carnival booths and each grade level had 30 minutes of fun and candy collection during the school day. This was also a PRIDE activity as part of our PBIS and an incentive for students to make good choices and have good behavior at school and on the bus.

The entire staff of Fort Vannoy is working very hard to enhance math instruction across the grades. We are using more interactive technology programs like en Visions on-line, educationcity.com and abcy. We are purchasing manipulatives for each classroom to help students who are visual and kinesthetic learners. Teachers are integrating math into many lessons and activities across the curriculum. We take being a School in Improvement very seriously and we are determined to make excellent progress in math while maintaining our high achievement in reading/language arts.