

Mineola High School

Board Report

September 16, 2013

- School got off to a great start this year. With all of our new course offerings, scheduling was a little complicated, but we seemed to have gotten everyone where they needed to be. The first two weeks have been very smooth.
- Lunch changes - All of the students who are freshman, sophomore or junior, now eat in the cafeteria during lunch. The seniors eat at the tables in the lobby. That eliminated the problem with students being spread out everywhere during the lunch time. We added tables in the cafeteria to accommodate the larger crowd and the students have adapted very well.
- iPads - We handed out iPads during registration before school started and had parents and students review the loan agreement and contract before signing for the iPad. Each student paid a \$30 user fee that will go into a repair account. So far, we have had three broken screens, but other than that, the students seem to be taking very good care of them. If you walk around the halls you will see most teachers using the iPads in their instruction. We are also using Google email to communicate with students. They have been trained to check their email every period. If we need them in the office we will send an email and that will be their hall pass to come down. We also make all of our announcements through the Google email system. The iPads have become a major part of the entire program at high school. Within the next two weeks, we will be implementing a new iPad program called eBackpack that will allow students and teachers to manage all of their assignments digitally.
- Homecoming - The festivities for this year are as follows:
 - 9:45 - District-wide pep rally at the stadium
 - 4:00 - Parade downtown
 - 7:00 - Homecoming Court ceremony
 - 7:30 - Home game against Quitman
- The Mineola Hay Show was a great success this year. It was held at the Civic Center on September 10. The auction this year raised over \$20,000 for our FFA students and program.
- Our first blood drive will be held on September 24.
- We are looking into the possibility of hiring a team of drug dogs to visit our campus three or four times a year as a deterrent for our students. We are in the process of getting proposals.

- High Expectations - The high school is working hard to establish a culture of high expectations for our students, both academically and in their behavior. We have communicated our expectations to the students and are working together to hold them accountable for stepping up to meet the high expectations. We are establishing a Leadership Team of staff members to review all campus programs and procedures as we progress through the school year. We want everything we do to benefit the students and the campus.
- The ASVAB military career inventory test will be given to all juniors and select seniors on October 26. When the test grading is complete, military representatives will come back and review the results with our students.
- The PSAT will be given to sophomores and juniors on October 16. This test is a good indicator of how a student will perform on the actual SAT when they take it. It is an elective test with a \$14 fee.
- Balfour will be on campus on October 2 and October 9 to give class ring presentations for juniors and cap, gown and invitation presentations for seniors.
- Our band will compete in a marching contest in Mt. Pleasant on October 15.
- Library book fair - October 7-14.
- Report card pick-up day - October 14
- Senior Week will be the week of October 28.
 - Bonfire - Monday, October 28 at 7:00
 - Seniors ride fire truck - Friday, November 1 at 9:00
 - District pep rally at stadium at 9:45
 - Power Puff football game at the stadium at 10:15
 - Seniors athletes announced before the football game at 7:00
 - Football vs Athens at 7:30