

Mineola Middle School
Board of Trustees Report
February 2014

- Current Enrollment 348
- The MMS Valentine Dance was held Friday 2-14-14 in the MMS cafeteria from 6:00 - 8:00. A great time was had by all in attendance.
- The MMS students and faculty participated in a 2 fundraisers for the Gonzales family, whose home was destroyed by fire. AVID promoted the "pie in the face" contest (money jar) while the student body also participated in a "hat or flip flops" for a day with a donation. All proceeds went to helping this family.
- The library just completed a successful book fair
- Student Council has begun one on one tutorials with the primary school. Primary school teachers can sign up to have a council member come and work with students. This will be done during activity period.
- PAC meeting will be held 2-25-14 @ 3:40 in the library. 8th grade SSI requirements will be discussed as well as possible ways to volunteer to help with upcoming events at MMS.
- Report cards will be mailed out 2-25-14
- After school tutorials are being held every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:40 - 5:00 to support student learning.
- Cheerleader tryouts will be March 1st.
- The student led newspaper is publishing their work on Edmodo. Students create a "smore" (online flyer), attach their article and then publish for viewing and comment by the student body.
- 6th Grade Science just completed a PBL about sources of energy and energy conservation. Guest speaker, Todd Peterson, City of Mineola Building Inspector, talked to students about how to conserve energy in homes and about his career. During the project, students researched the various sources of electricity, chose the source they believed would be the best source for America to convert to and participated in a "silent debate" using Kidblog.com. Students also conducted a home energy audit and created a presentation on Google Drive containing 10 tips to save energy in their home to present to their family. Finally, students designed blades for 3 ft. wind turbine models, designed and conducted experiments with the blades and determined which design created the most voltage.
- The PBL this week will teach students about the layers of the Earth, the different types of rock that make up the Earth's crust and how these rocks are formed. Students will research uses for common rocks native to our area and will write proposals to the City Council suggesting how these various native rocks could be used to enhance the beauty and durability of public buildings, recreational areas, and landmarks in Mineola.
- FCA: The leadership team is planning a retreat at Sky Ranch, Feb. 21st & 22nd. Leaders are organizing registration, designing name tags, setting the retreat schedule, planning events and activities, enlisting guest speakers, and will be implementing those plans to create a successful off campus event.
- Cindy Thatcher, Computer Applications teacher, attended the technology convention in Austin last week and learned many new programs and applications. She started this

week integrating Edmodo and Google Drive. Students can now access their classroom assignments for her class from off campus if they have internet. Also, many keyboarding students are surpassing (by a long shot) the required 30 WPM (words per minute) required to receive a grade of 100 on their timings, and about 10% are typing faster than 50 WPM.

- After a successful basketball season, workouts have started in preparation for track season. Our first meet will be February 24th in Eustace.