



FLEMING MIDDLE SCHOOL

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"Where Excellence is Standard"

PRINCIPAL
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Heather Yount
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Board Briefing

Dear Members of the Board,

As we approach the end of our first trimester, I am proud of the hard work from the students, staff and parents of Fleming Middle School, making the start of this school year a success. Below are just a few reasons why I can say that I am proud to be a Rogue.

PBIS

One of the identified challenges with successful PBIS schools is sustainability over the long term. During the August in-service week, our staff renewed their commitment to uphold consistent expectations school-wide. It was an all in approach and the results on our campus are amazing. If you observe our classrooms you will see students in their seats and actively engaged prior to the tardy bell ringing. This is a phenomenal feat in any middle school. We have also seen behavioral improvement throughout all areas of our building.

- We have taught 19 school-wide PBIS lessons.
- We have analyzed discipline data four times to provide a focus for our PBIS lessons.
- We have experienced a reduction in major office referrals by 42% for the months of September and October.
- We have experienced a reduction in lunch detentions by 37% for the month of September.
- We will be recognizing students for all of their success in behavior, attendance, and academics at the conclusion of the first trimester.

Intentional Relationships

Our staff has worked hard this year to build camaraderie. We have implemented a time on Thursday mornings for grade level teams to meet and discuss both behavioral and academic student issues, as well as curricular strategies. During these team meetings, grade level teachers identify students who are struggling and work together to connect these students to building resources. Some of the resources that have been utilized are staffings, after school tutoring, check-in/check-out program, and School Community Team referrals. Teachers also use this time to identify students' whose parents need to be contacted for positive recognition or further academic support. We have found this to not only unify the staff but also to ensure that we have identified all students in need of extra support. The team meetings have increased the opportunity for the adults to make connections with students on our campus.

Academic Improvement

We are proud of our academic improvement last year at Fleming and are looking forward to another great year. We have worked to utilize individual assessments from 2009-2010 to recognize areas to focus our attention academically. We identified students who would benefit from more intense instruction in both reading and math and have provided them with extra support in those areas. Our math teachers have embraced the new content standards and have realigned their year long plans to accommodate the changes. We are in the process of completing our first round of OAKS testing in math and will use the results to further drive our instruction. Finally, we have made it a priority to provide 52 minutes of non-interrupted instructional time for each period.

Active Engagement

Our classrooms are always buzzing with the active engagement of students. Although different forms of active engagement are used, all students are being held accountable. Teachers are utilizing the projection systems in every classroom, most of which are also equipped with document cameras. Several teachers are utilizing the interactive white boards received through our Gear-Up Grant. Each hallway also received a class set of active

response clickers which every teacher has access. Other ways in which checking for understanding is occurring are as follows: use of white boards, use of Kagan's Cooperative Structures, use of choral reading strategies, use of guided note taking practices, the list goes on and on. Instruction at Fleming is exciting to see!

Fleming's Extracurricular Activities

Our fall athletics were a success. We had 74 students participate in our fall sports. Our season's biggest accomplishment was an undefeated season for our 7th grade football players and their coaches, Steve Brown and Matt Hillis. We have several other district employees that we would like to recognize for helping to enrich our students' middle school experience by coaching. We appreciate the efforts of Tim Mohr, Maria Caruncho, and Jeff Brazille.

Fleming Middle School also participated in Red Ribbon Week, beginning October 25th. Jerry Keeling, our councilor, did an outstanding job organizing several ways to get students involved in recognizing the benefits of leading a drug-free life. Activities for the week included a poster and essay contest, a 3 on 3 basketball tournament, and dress-up activity for each day. Our campus buzzed with excitement during the week and participation was at an all time high thanks to Mr. Keeling's efforts.

There are other after school activities offered to students. Julie Barnes has organized our Builder's Club. This group of students is working hard on community projects. We also have experienced huge success with our After School Tutoring Program. We have a grade level teacher assigned every Tuesday and Thursday to support students with academic struggles. This program has been such a success; we have parents requesting to sign their child up on a daily basis.

As you can see, I could go on and on about the Fleming Community. Our staff, students and parents have made this transition into a new school year an outstanding experience. Our new staff including Mr. Higgins, Mrs. Burks, Mr. Davidson, and Mrs. Richardson, as well as our Fleming Veterans have made my opportunity to be the new Principal of Fleming a rewarding experience. They have proven to me that we can get through any challenge put before us by working together.

I am looking forward to the continuation of the school year.

Sincerely,

Heather Yount
Principal
Fleming Middle School