

**April Board Report
Ozona Middle School**

Curriculum and Instruction

We are working on preparation for the STAAR (State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness). As I have mentioned before, we are not “teaching to the test”; in fact, we will not see a released STAAR test until this fall. We do, however, have a blue print for the state assessments that is based on our TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills), and we are following our scope and sequence which ensures that instruction will focus on all TEKS. We will finish our preparations for the state assessment days on April 23 and 24; we will then finish out the year focusing on the remaining TEKS in our scope and sequence.

In preparation for next year, our professional development will include vertical alignment meetings with the core subject areas in grades 2-12. The vertical teams will complete a CNA (Comprehensive Needs Assessment) based on data from the 2012-2013 school year. This will help us to make instructional decisions for the 2013-2014 school year.

School Improvement

We are continuing to work through our school improvement plans: data analysis, focused instruction, and student-centered instruction. We are continuing to benchmark and analyze student data to target areas of needed improvement. Our next round of reporting is at the end of April. Mr. Byrd has asked us to really focus our efforts on maximizing every minute that we can in these last weeks to help students improve in not only their skill sets for testing areas, but also strategies and vocabulary. Our instructional coaches are still working with teachers to improve instruction through those targeted efforts, as well. We are working on “Think Through Math” in our technology classes. This is an online tutorial tool that gives students and teachers immediate feedback on math skills. We are hopeful that this will help us in the area of math, but also to work on problem solving and thinking strategy skills. Mr. Byrd visited our campuses on April 16th to evaluate the technology tutorial time and prepare our reports for the April cycle.

Homework House-Extended Day, Summer School

We are going to use our Homework House time from now until testing time for both homework completion and test prep. We have some students that have made great strides this year, and hopefully, we can continue to make improvements in student performance between now and testing. We are also looking ahead to Summer School. The STAAR has a “phase-in” standard, and if our students don’t make the set standard for this year, then we have concerns about them making the higher one for next year, so we are making plans for a summer school program to address students in 6-8 that will need to have significant improvement to meet the standards for the 2013-2014 school year.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Members of our TMSCA Team (Texas Math Science and Calculator Association) that qualified for the state competition at UTSA in San Antonio did a great job: in science Caleb Webb(6) placed 4th,

in mathematics Josh Knaack(6) placed 15th, and the calculator team of Rachel Mendoza(8) who placed 10th, Kassidy Gonzalez(7) who placed 13, Denise Rodriguez(7) who placed 11th, Samantha Torralba (7) who placed 5th, and Coulter McWilliams(6) who placed 15th, took home the 3rd place team trophy in calculator. Mrs. Harmsen is our sponsor this year and she has done a great job with our students in getting them to this level.

Enrollment – 159

6th – 51

7th – 49

8th – 59

Attendance – 95.6% year to date