

Director's Report - October 14, 2014

Count Day 2014 at CASMAN Academy opened up with a lot of excitement, and 65 students that will count towards our final count number. All day long students were "treated" to special prize drawings for being in attendance and progressing forward in their academic studies. The staff worked very hard before school preparing a special breakfast for all students, and our science teacher, Laurie Blevins enlightened her classes with hands on experiments of the "exploding" kind! Lots of fun and excitement in the building.

Our per pupil funding is \$7251.00 for this count cycle with the original budget figured for 60 students. The finance committee will be meeting with Kris Mauntler and Ashley Roy on Oct. 22 to go over the budget after the count figures are finalized, and an update will be provided at the next board meeting.

On Monday, Oct. 6th the personnel committee meet with Prospective Board Member Debra Nichols at 8am here at the school. An update on this will be provided at the next board meeting on October 27, 2014.

Since the last BOE meeting, Henry and I have meet with Mary Ann Behm from LAUNCH Manistee about College Application week. That is coming up the first week in November, and we are looking forward to working with Mary Ann on this initiative which is a county wide effort to encourage more students to attend college.

Henry and I also met with Cheryl Wolfram from MiWorks, and she is helping us with two students who are going to be doing a work study for credit. At this time the work places have been set up and approved and the final paperwork just needs to be turned back in by the students. We will be having the students complete assignments that will be turned into the school to verify that standards are being met. The students are able to earn a wage at both of these placements - a win-win type of situation for the students.

The Manistee ISD offered CPI Training, and we had two staff members receive that training. Bryan Morgan and Kimberly Evans attended and participated in the all day training, and are now certified. CPI stands for Crisis Prevention Intervention. Along with those two we also have Ben Beaumont, who is trained and certified on our staff as well.

Last week in September the teaching staff attended the launch meeting for the FAME training at West Shore ESD. The training involved understanding and exploring examples of formative assessment, collaboration with other school districts in our area, and hearing about results from other schools that have implemented this in the past. This particular training ties in very nicely with the Data4Action training that Kay Salyer is working on county wide with the schools, and it also fits in with our implementation of interim testing throughout the school year. Overall, it was a very productive day, and we were able to make many connections to things we are already working on within the school.

Raul is working with local contractors to gather bids for the repairs needed to the roof per the City of Manistee's notification to fix the illicit connection. Basically, we have roof drains that flow into the combined sewer system within the city limits. However, the City of Manistee needs to eliminate the combined sewer overflow that happens during rain events and spring thaws per their permit from Michigan DEQ. The City of Manistee requested that this be fixed by the first of November, and we have asked for an extension, which was granted. However, the cost factor of altering the roof drains may become an issue for us, and I am in contact with the City of Manistee to see if there are any grants available for us to help cover the cost of this required change. I will continue to keep the board updated on this situation.

The break in to the school last spring which resulted in the safe being stolen from the building, has had some court action. Two individuals are facing charges in relationship to the event. The sentencing will happen later this month for both individuals. At this time we have requested restitution for the contents of the safe.

Henry attended a Homeless Liaison Conference in Cadillac. He was able to learn about the reporting that needs to be done, as well as collaborate with other Liaisons from the Northern Michigan Region. He also came back with supplies to be used for students. Overall, Henry felt that the conference was very beneficial and that he learned a lot while he was there.

I have an upcoming meeting to learn more about the in's and out's of Title 1 and how to remain in compliance taking place in Muskegon on October 23. Leslie Action from the business office, Kimberly Evans, our Title 1 teacher, and myself will be attending this boot camp meeting.