

Lorna Byrne Middle School 2nd Trimester update.

Points of interest for the second trimester indicate continued positive growth in LBMS.

- Our consistent growth in academics is demonstrated by an upward trend in our OAKS state test scores. We are working on completion of a second round of tests. Computer problems with OAKS vendors and the network virus notwithstanding, we have been able to keep our students moving through the labs. Results are:
 - 8th grade Reading scores show 66.67 students have now passed or exceeded after the second round. Our ending total last year was 61%.
 - 8th grade Math is underway for students who did not meet or exceed the first time. Our initial run netted 47% passing scores and a number of the second round students have met. Final numbers will not be available for this reporting period.
 - 7th grade Reading is far and above our expectations for the second round. We have 79.66% of our students who went above the mark so far. Last year our final number was 72.8%.
 - 7th grade Math students have also exceeded our hopes. We currently have 81.92% met after the second round out distancing our last year's final number by 10.3%.
 - 6th grade has not yet begun second round testing but in the first round nearly 50% met the benchmark.
- Attendance at Lorna Byrne continues to exceed the state minimum at 93.5%. We have number of attendance initiatives that have generated a lot of buzz with students. They all work to improve their numbers and become eligible for the numerous awards and incentives.
- The girls' basketball season was one of challenge and growth. Each team member developed skills and our seventh grade players show promise for a solid fundamental team next year. Thanks to coaches, Ray Yarborough, Aaron Mathews, and Lacey Madden for their interest and effort in building our program.
- Congratulations to the Lorna Byrne Middle School Wrestling Team for a successful season. We had 24 male and 1 female members. Some of our wrestlers participate in the Illinois Valley Wrestling Club as well and travel outside the area for competitions. Wrestlers that placed at our school district meet are as follows:
 - Grade 8 - Nick Hoesle and Gabe Miller 1st
 - Grade 7 - Brandon Orndoff and Erik Householder-1st
 - Grade 7 - James Chastain, Seth Williams and TJ Hughey - 3rd & 4th
- We have kicked off the track season with 20+ students coming forward to compete for Lorna Byrne. Track coaches Tani Webb and Ray Yarborough are excited about the possibilities for our student athletes this spring.
- Our Drama class did two evening performances of "Skid Marks" and "The Bully Game". Mr. Talty has 25 students currently in Drama. His video classes and the drama students took a field trip to Evergreen to watch their fifth grade drama presentation.
- Our local chapter of SMILE (Science and Math Investigative Learning Experience) Club is coached by Mary Trammell and Tim Talty. Twenty students will be making a trip to Western and Oregon State Universities to participate in the SMILE challenge. Students will have an opportunity to interact with others from all over the state as well as experience two college campuses. This program has helped a number of our children to explore their interest in Science and Math. Our continued support of these activities is very important to us.

- Our second parent/teacher conferences were held on January 29th from 11:00 to 7:00. We are trying various ways to reach the parents in the reduced time this year's schedule has allowed. This time we did it "round robin" fashion with all staff members in the cafeteria at separate tables. We had around 60% of our parents turn out that day. Numerous staffings have also been scheduled to accommodate parent availability and to be sure to communicate with families about their child's issues. The model for parent conferences and the time allotted should continue to be examined for effectiveness.
- The Lorna Byrne PBS team is currently attending the state wide conference in Eugene. They will be returning with new ideas and information to keep us moving upward in the development of PBS practices.