

## **Browning Middle School Board Report March 2017**

### **Positives:**

Ron Tucker, Sunnie Bird, and I went to the Apple ConnectEd Leadership Academy in Dallas on February 9-12. The training was set up in a format of 48 workshops, with each of us attending 18 workshops each. I had to attend workshops aimed at ensuring that we have a plan in place that addresses all the best practices of technology use in schools. Ron and Sunnie had the fun job of attending workshops that taught them all about apps and programs that will engage students in learning. Throughout the rest of this year, they will be bringing this information to the rest of the teachers and helping them implement it across the curriculum.

### **Curriculum/Instruction:**

One of the most important concepts that I learned about at the Apple ConnectEd Leadership Academy was the SAMR model. SAMR, which stands for Substitution Augmentation Modification and Redefinition, is a model that helps us define how technology impacts teaching and learning. Substitution occurs when technology is used to perform the same tasks the students would be doing without technology. For instance, instead of reading out of a traditional textbook, our social studies students read from an electronic textbook using their iPads.

Augmentation occurs when students use technology as a direct substitute, but in a way that improves function. For instance, our students use the My Access program for much of their writing, which allows for immediate feedback to the students so they can be constantly improving their writing, and it helps teachers correctly assess student writing. Modification occurs when students and teachers use technology to redesign a task into something that transforms student learning. For instance, instead of just reading and writing about the water cycle, students in Ms. Goss's room studies the water cycle, and then used a variety of apps to present what they learned. The used Keynote to explain the water cycle, and YakkityYak to have an animated raindrop explain how he went through the water cycle. Finally, redefinition occurs when technology is used to learn in ways that were previously inconceivable. For instance, in social studies class students can be assigned a geographic area to study and present. They have their choice of how to use technology to learn about their area, and then choose from a variety of apps to present the information they learned. They could use Google Hangouts to interact with students from the area they are studying, virtual fieldtrips to learn about the area, Google Earth to study the terrain, or Google Maps to explore important landmarks and historical sites. They might use a blog, iBook, iMovie, Keynote, or a variety of other apps to present their learning. Instead of just learning by listening or doing, they are emerged in the learning process and become the teacher instead of the student. In this case, technology has totally transformed the learning environment.

### **Extra-curricular:**

Our girls' volleyball teams did well this season. We are now into wrestling season. Between Napi and BMS, we have 21 grapplers competing this season.

We had one student compete in the Glacier County Spelling Bee. Chris Hall represented BMS well by making it through the 3rd round.

**Behavior:**

Referrals in February 2017:

Type	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
# extreme	0	5	0	6	1	2	1
# major	0	20	12	12	3	5	7
# minor	2	78	70	86	50	78	34
Total	2	103	82	104	54	85	42

As compared to last year:

Type	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
# extreme	1	0	1	1	1	1	2
# major	1	9	13	10	12	8	13
# minor	8	109	128	60	59	57	106
Total	10	118	142	71	72	66	121

**Attendance:**

7th grade - 81.42%

8th grade - 79.87%

Total: 80.7%