

Browning Middle School  
Board Report  
September 30, 2020

Enrollment

6<sup>th</sup> grade – 136

7<sup>th</sup> grade – 152

8<sup>th</sup> grade – 136

Total 424 (increase of 5 since 9-1-20)

Building Update

BMS secretaries, TA's and building principals have been working in the old office area the month of September. Internet is available (but only in the old entry area) and phone service has improved. For the new office area, the move-in date has been postponed until possibly September 23<sup>rd</sup>. A targeted move-in date for the entire building is slated for mid-October. It was stated at the facilities meeting (09-17-20) the new kitchen will not be ready until possibly mid-November. Mr. Huebsch and Mr. Black worked a split schedule the last two weeks of September (per Mrs. Hall's approval) with one administrator on site and one working remotely.

Technology Update

A huge shout-to Rudy and Julie, our TA's, secretaries and teachers for helping our students receive the technology they need for success.

We have almost attained our goal of 100% iPad distribution for grades 7 and 8!!

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade iPads came in the week of Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>, and were set up by Rudy and Julie. We are waiting for the iPad cases to arrive before a 6<sup>th</sup> grade iPad rollout can be scheduled, and we hope to have iPads in the hands of our 6<sup>th</sup> graders by the first week of October.

Student Enrollment	iPads/Packets Distributed	iPads/Packets Remaining	Success Rate
8 <sup>th</sup> - 136	129	7	95%
7 <sup>th</sup> – 152	147	6	97%
6 <sup>th</sup> – 148	126	22	85%

Jetpacks - have been in high demand and on back order. As they have become available, they are immediately distributed. To date, 70 of the 86 jetpacks requested have been given out (81%). We have also faced issues with charge cords/cubes. 300 were ordered through Radio Shack and were on back order. Like the jetpacks, as soon as any cords/cubes have come in they are immediately given out to the students that need them. We are also discussing getting ear buds/headphones out to students, as we are aware there are some situations where students are having difficulties learning from home due to noisy conditions.

Google Meets – many staff discovered that their students were getting into the Google Meets before the teacher logged on, or were staying on the Meet after the teacher had left. To prevent this from happening again, and protect both student and staff from inappropriate behavior occurring in the Meet, staff have restructured how students can access these Meets. Students are now unable to access a Meet without the teacher being there first, and teachers can exit students out of the class once it has concluded.

#### BMS COVID Suicide Protocols

After assuming our current position at BMS, it was brought to our attention that there were no set protocols in place for staff to support students who are suffering from depression, anxiety, and mental issues during the pandemic. At our request, BMS counselors began working to establish protocols for any students who are struggling with suicide ideologies and self-harm. Sheila, Arlan and Dana (in conjunction with BHS counselors) have worked together to create a document that addresses these issues. This rough draft was presented to Dennis and Corrina, and once the final draft is complete, we will present to the board for approval.

#### Data

Academic rigor has increased over the last two weeks, and I have asked staff to submit the percentages of attendance in their Google Meets, as well as the percentage of assignments turned in from 9-7 to 9-11, 2020.

Attendance numbers show 47.89% attended Google Meets, while only 35.67% of assignments were turned in.

It should be noted that the 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers have had a remarkable 85% of packet work turned in – well done!).

It has been determined that these percentages are due to three factors:

- 1) Internet connectivity/students still needing a jetpack
  - jetpacks are being distributed as soon as they become available
- 2) Confusion logging into Google Meet
  - teachers continue to repeat and clarify the process
  - instructions were sent out twice this week on the district Facebook page explaining how to log in
- 2) Confusion over the difference between Google Meet and Google Classroom
  - teachers will continue to help students/parents differentiate between the two and their purpose

We feel that we are meeting our student's needs by putting technology in a high percentage of their hands (connection). Now it is our goal to make an even greater effort to encourage our students and parents/guardians to participate and take ownership of their education (engagement).

William Huebsch  
BMS Principal