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WAPAKONETA MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Middle School
February 19, 2019

Updates:

ICU Update: We are continuing to work through the ICU program. We have completed reading the important information in the book. We have now started to identify what it does and doesn't look like in our building. The goal is to create a document of common expectations in the building creating a vision for ICU implementation and a process to hold us accountable for what we believe.

Co-teaching Pilot (7th Grade): We have been working on a co-teaching scenario that maximizes students' growth. In order to do this, there has been a seventh grade team that has been working through a new configuration for the past year and a half. To date, this configuration has been very successful. With it, we have seen tremendous growth compared to our traditional model. Major reasons for this is that this model has allowed us to create more heterogeneous classroom groupings, more co-planning time, more cohesive co-teaching teams, less contents for special education teachers to focus on as well as more time for interventions and data collection. We are going to transition the building to this model over the next two years. A huge thank you to that team and to the board for supporting our district co-teaching model.

MAP: As a building, we have been studying the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) Assessments throughout the course of the year. Through these assessments, which are administered in the fall, winter, and spring, we are able to assess our students' growth as well as their levels of proficiency. We have studied several different types of reports and analyzed the student data to help us plan for the needs of our students. Most recently, we looked at our growth by grade level, individual classes, and small groups of students. We worked on a process for identifying our students that are not showing typical growth. The teacher teams will then collaborate to identify strategies that will hopefully springboard the growth of these students. It was an extremely positive experience as each grade level and content area saw very, positive growth and crushed their growth targets from fall to winter.

Other INFO:

- The students that have been selected to be in our musical, Mary Poppins, Jr., have been busy rehearsing for the past few weeks. They are excited about their upcoming performance in March.
- Our 6th grade students enjoyed a visit from the Mineral Guys during the week of February 4. The students enjoyed learning more about their unit of study through this visit.

- On Friday, February 8, our students who reached 5 or more goals on their Character Card were rewarded. These students were able to choose from one of the following activities: dodgeball, karaoke, and electronics. Of our students, 79% met this goal and were able to participate in this event. It was a great opportunity to recognize our students who work so hard at WMS.
- Our Ambassador Club hosted the second annual Snowball Dance on Friday, February 8. Deputy Blank was our DJ for the evening. Through this dance, our Ambassador Club was able to raise funds that will help support their activities for the upcoming school year. We want to thank Kristi Fisher and Mark Koch for all of the work they put into planning the dance for our students.
- On Thursday, February 14, the Wapakoneta Breakfast Optimist Club hosted a tubing trip to Mad River Mountain for a group of our WMS students.
- Today, our 7th grade students took a field trip to the Victoria Theatre in Dayton to see Lyric Fire: Dunbar In Motion. This show put into physical motion the poetry of Dayton's own Paul Laurence Dunbar, the first African-American poet to achieve international fame. Performed by Dayton Contemporary Dance Company (DCDC) in period costume, the dance paints a moving and vibrant picture of the poet's life during the late 1800s.

Upcoming Events:

February 25, 2019 - BLT

March 6, 2019 - 1 HR Early Dismissal

March 8, 2019 - Music Exploration Concert

March 11, 2019 - BLT

March 11, 2019 - PTO Meeting

March 12, 2019 - Committee Meeting Day

March 15, 2019 - Mary Poppins, Jr. Musical

March 16, 2019 - Mary Poppins, Jr. Musical

March 19, 2019 - Spring Photos, 8:15 AM

March 25, 2019 - BLT

March 27, 2019 - WMS Read Aloud Day

March 27, 2019 - Special Ed Department Meeting

March 28, 2019 - 6th Grade Field Trip to Stoneco (Amstutz and Shafer)

March 29, 2019 - 6th Grade Field Trip to Stoneco (Daum and Adams)

April 1, 2019 - 6th Grade Field Trip to Stoneco (Steinke and Jamison)

April 3, 2019 - 6th Grade Field Trip to Stoneco (Jarvis and Rossman)

April 4, 2019 - 6th Grade Field Trip to Stoneco (Truesdale and Wayman)

April 5, 2019 - 6th Grade Field Trip to Stoneco (Roediger and Turner)

