



Kennett High School



Principal's Report
October 10, 2014

During the month of October, these are the topics of discussion:

Priorities

1. Kennett High School will host a Substance Prevention Forum on October 22nd from 5-7:30PM in the Loynd auditorium. Kennett has partnered with Memorial Hospital, Conway Police Department and Carroll County Coalition for Public Health to present this forum which will highlight community substance abuse trends, legal implications for families, implications for future post secondary plans, trends in the ER, health risks and the impact of substance use on brain changes and general physical dependence. Community resources will be highlighted and suggestions for communicating with children on this sensitive topic will be discussed. The event will begin at 5PM in the cafeteria with free pizza in the cafeteria, an opportunity to try the Fatal Vision Glasses and a number of brochures and handouts provided to parents. The auditorium presentation will begin at 5:30 in the auditorium.
2. The total enrollment of Kennett High School as of October 1st is now at 808 students, a decrease of 30 students over last year. Also, as of October 1st we have 35 full time students enrolled in Eagle Academy an increase of 5 students from the previous year. We have 26 credit recovery students an increase of 4 over the previous year. We expect these numbers in Eagle Academy to continue to rise during the second semester.
3. The Kennett High School SAT scores for last year indicate a drop in performance in math and writing with an increase in our reading score. Last year our math score was 503 compared to the previous year of 521. The writing score was 483 compared to the previous year of 496 and the reading score was 508 compared to the previous year of 506. These decreases speak to the need for teacher retention, last year we went through 5 teachers for the 2 algebra and geometry positions which is at the heart of SAT math. In addition we lost two strong English teachers last year which will continue to impact our performance.

Identified Improvement Targets in Progress

1. After the first 5 weeks of school the total number of tardies at Kennett High School is down 59%. Last year through the first 5 weeks we had 1,337 tardies compared to 559 this year. Parent note tardies decreased by 86% going from 968 last year at this time to 135. We see a slight uptick in student tardies, up 15%, going from 369 last year to 424 through the first 5 weeks. We will continue to monitor this as we head into the end of the first quarter when the student tardy allowances will again reset at the start of quarter 2.

Staff and Student Accomplishments

1. We are keeping our kids healthy in the nurse's office by offering free flu shots for our students every Thursday morning during PLC time in the month of October. This is the continuation of a program which we have offered families during the past few years.
2. Kennett students participated in the World Day of Bullying Prevention on October 6th – demonstrating anti bullying unity with blue shirts worn by hundreds of students. Three students will be participating in the Stand Up New Hampshire Training and Action Summit, an anti bullying training workshop at UNH on October 17th. Our SRO, and the vice principal will also attend and plan to work with five other students previously trained to form a “student task force” to plan school culture, educational materials and programs for the student body promoting a safe bully free culture.
3. Carson Behr and Mae Van Rossum have been chosen to participate in the All New England Music Festival at Plymouth State University on November 6th, a terrific honor. Also in the performing arts, the Kennett Dance Team will be performing at the Boston Garden during the Celtics game on November 7th.