



Kennett High School



Principal's Report
September 3, 2014

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

Theme for the Year

1. The students and staff have gotten off to a smooth, positive start this year. Our theme for this year, "Critical Thinking and Problem Solving". Our areas of focus are; Common Core our first year of testing, Energize the reading break; Promote a kind student centered climate, Expand our interdisciplinary PLC initiative and begin a specific focus on the middle majority. These initiatives represent a continuation of several of the initiatives from last year, are solid fundamentals of good teaching and give us a new area of long term focus with the middle majority.

Priorities

1. KHS will continue to align curriculum and assessment, with a specific emphasis on curriculum and assessments that emphasize critical thinking and leveraging knowledge to solve related problems. Last year we had a very successful implementation of our interdisciplinary PLC groups which was favorably received by the staff. We will expand and build on this initiative this year.
2. KHS continues to extend student achievement. Two years ago our students had taken 142 AP exams which had been our all time record. This year our students took 179 AP exams which was an increase of 26%. Seventy percent of our students scored 3 or better on the exam which is considered the passing benchmark. Over the past 5 years the number of AP exams that our Kennett students have taken has risen by 163% and our students have averaged a 70% passing rate 4 of the last 5 years.
3. The total enrollment of Kennett High School and Eagle Academy now stands at 837 students, which is a decrease of 12 students over last year. In addition we have 60 students enrolled in Eagle Academy and which is an increase of 10 students from the previous year. Eagle Academy students began their school year on Monday, September 8th.
4. The Kennett High School open house has been scheduled for September 24th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Notification of the event will be sent to parents prior to the event and we will also place a message in the local paper and place a PSA with the local radio stations.
5. The Kennett student picture day will be this Friday, September 5th notices and information was distributed to the students during the opening day activities.

Identified Improvement Targets in Progress

1. Kennett High school will again offer the SAT test on our campus this year. We will offer the first SAT test at Kennett on October 11th. We will also offer the SAT exam on our campus November 8th and March 14th and offer the AP exams on our campus the first two weeks of May, 2015. This year also marks the first series of common core assessment through the chosen state assessment tool, produced by Smarter Balance. These tests will be administered to our juniors in April of 2015.

Staff and Student Accomplishments

1. Homecoming is scheduled for the week of September 15th. The student council has planned a full week of school activities with the homecoming athletic events scheduled for Friday the 19th. The homecoming dance will be held on Saturday evening, September 20th.
2. The first freshman transition day was held on Thursday, August 28th with over 95% attendance rate from our incoming freshman. Students met their team teachers and participated in a number of icebreaker activities to ease their anxiety. Students were guided through the school by members of the National Honor Society, Key Club and Student Council,