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WAPAKONETA MIDDLE SCHOOL

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August 28, 2018

Subject: Principals Report

Updates:

DLT/BLT: In July, nine members of our staff participated in the two-day DLT/BLT event. It was a very energetic event where our staff looked at our building goals that we established in July 2017. We looked at data to see what progress we have made and charted a course to achieve our goals through action planning. Our building focus area is to “promote high expectations for students with extra help and time; provide interventions for at-risk students”. Over time, we have added strategies that move us towards this goal. Three years ago, we added co-teaching, and two years ago, we began adding instructional interventions. This year, we are going to study and pilot the *Power of ICU*.

Staff Retreat: On August 8, 2018, over 90% of WMS staff met, for four hours, in our middle school library. Our agenda was to discuss housekeeping, update staff on the DLT/BLT event, learn more about Mercy Unlimited, reflect on professional collaboration and what all successful schools have in common as well as introduce the *Power of ICU*. It was a great event that was highlighted with a presentation by Executive Director of Mercy Unlimited Tammy Brown. As always, she was very dynamic and is passionate about helping the families that our district serves by partnership and providing the resources that they need.

Welcome for New Students: On August 9, 2018, our guidance counselors, Kristi Fisher and Mark Koch, held a New Student/New Parent Orientation for students who are new to WMS and our district. During this orientation, the students and their families were able to learn about WMS and take a tour of the school. The students and their families expressed appreciation for this orientation.

Power of ICU: Through our building professional development time which includes TBTs, we are going to study a strategy called the *Power of ICU* and see if it fits our building. It is a strategy that can help prevent student apathy through providing students with high expectations with the support needed to successfully reach those expectations. WMS will use the first semester to study, collaborate, challenge, and implement the strategy.

Empowering Every Student Every Day to Exceed Every Expectation: This is the focus statement of the building for this year. WMS believes that our purpose is to do whatever it takes to help our students not only meet their expectations but to EXCEED them. On the first day of

school, we had student grade-level meetings to set expectations and then promised that we will exceed these expectations.

Active Listening: In August and September, we are discussing how to be an active listener. A belief of mine is that you cannot lead if you cannot listen, and this is a skill that can take our students farther than any academic skill. Through these discussions, it is my hope that both staff and students will learn to #bebetter listeners.

Other Highlights:

7th Volleyball is off to a great start

7th Football has their scrimmages in and ready to start

D.A.R.E. started last week with our 5th graders in health class

Back to School Celebration and Schedule Pick-ups were well attended

WHS marching band played for 5th grade, on Friday, in our gymnasium

Upcoming Event:

August 29, 2018 - Early Dismissal (Work to 4PM)

September 3, 2018 - Labor Day: No School

September 4, 2018 - 5th Grade Band Parents Meeting

September 5, 2018 - Pictures

September 6, 2018 - Choir Parent Meeting

September 7, 2018 - CAP/MAP Window Closes

September 10, 2018 - BLT

September 10, 2018 - PTO Meeting

September 11, 2018 - Action Team Day

September 12, 2018 - 6th and 7th ELA Release Party

September 17, 2018 - 5th Science Release Party

September 18, 2018 - Fall PTO Fundraiser begins

September 19, 2018 - MMGW Reconnect

September 19, 2018 - 5th grade ELA and Math Release Party

September 26, 2018 - Early Dismissal (Work to 4PM)

