

## Leonard Middle School June Board Report

Last week our eighth-grade team savored their end of the year trip to Camp Jordan. They bonded at Camp Jordan and appeared absolutely blissful. While visiting I thought of the motto E pluribus unum as many became one doing the dinner chores, playing games, and really enjoying each other's company. Mr. Hanson calls it camp mode and I was thinking we could use camp mode every day. They had another great day on Monday at the eighth-grade celebration followed by the students beginning their high school journey with a step-up afternoon at OTHS.



This afternoon my thoughts are about what a great class we are passing on to our friends at the high school. First this group is a powerful academic class. In NWEA math testing this group grew to a 236.9 mean

which is 5.5 points above the national average. 58% of the students in this class met or exceeded their own personal growth targets and 66% of our students scored above the national average. The scores in reading are even better as the class average grew 6.3 points to 225.3 this year as 67% met or exceeded their growth targets and 68% scored at or above the national average. The assessment numbers tell us we are passing on a great class and our staff has performed exceptionally this year.



With my mind on end of the year data I just looked at behavior data and our eighth-grade class reduced office referrals by 32%. Our seventh-grade class reduced those referrals by 40%. This really has been a good year for academics and behavior.

As we end this year a number I really want to work on next year is our number of ineligible students. As we end the year 7% of our students are not eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities. This is the first year we have kept track of that so it is our baseline and I hope we can shrink that number.

Tracey O'Connell has worked diligently on improving our school attendance. Tracey and I have worked as our attendance team and in some ways, we have been very successful. Overall our average daily attendance is 95% and each grade level is at 95%. Mrs. O'Connell sent over fifty letters to students and their families during the school year when a student reached eight absences. The friendly letter stresses the importance of good school attendance and explains that chronically absent students do not perform as well academically as their peers. Yes, we send more assertive letters when friendly letters do not work. We also have Officer King visit homes when no letters are not effective. This is the first year we have kept statistics on chronically absent students and unfortunately 11% of our students missed 10% of the school year or more. This is our new baseline and we will work to shrink that number as we go forward.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Crandall