

COUNCIL GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2009

By Sherry Edmiston, Principal



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CGMS September 2009 Activity Calendar

9/2/09 – Staff Meeting for MS Teachers – 3:15 PM
9/2/09 – PDC – 4:30 PM
9/2/09 – Principal’s Chat Room – 5:30-7:30 PM
9/3/09 – MTSS Bldg Leadership Meeting – 11:10 AM
9/3/09 – Pep Rally – 2:50 PM
9/3/09 – VB/FB vs Mission Valley – 4:00/6:00 PM
9/7/09 – No School! – Labor Day
9/9/09 – District Academic Council (DAC) – 8:00 AM
9/9/09 – Staff Meeting for MS Teachers – 3:15 PM
9/9/09 – District MTSS Meeting – 4:30 PM
9/9/09 – PTO – 6:30 PM
9/9/09 – Site Council – 7:30 PM
9/10/09 – MTSS Bldg Leadership Meeting – 11:10 AM
9/10/09 – PTO Cookie Dough Sales Assembly/MS – 1:30 PM
9/10/09 – VB/FB @ West Franklin – 4:00/6:00 PM
9/14/09 – MTSS Bldg Leadership Meeting – 11:10 AM
9/14/09 – BOE – 6:30 PM
9/15/09 – Peer Helpers Training – Stone Nature Center
9/16/09 – Staff Meeting for MS Teachers – 3:15 PM
9/16/09 – District MTSS Meeting – 4:30 PM
9/16/09 – MS Sports/Activities Committee – 7:00 PM
9/17/09 – MTSS Bldg Leadership Meeting – 11:10 AM
9/17/09 – Pep Rally – 2:50 PM
9/17/09 – CGMS VB/FB vs Americus – 4:00/6:00 PM
9/18/09 – Grade 7 Field Trip to State Fair
9/21/09 – No School! – Teacher Staff Development
9/23/09 – Individual Picture Day for Students/Staff
9/23/09 – Staff Meeting for MS Teachers – 3:15 PM
9/23/09 – District MTSS Meeting – 4:30 PM
9/24/09 – MTSS Bldg Leadership – 11:10 AM
9/24/09 – CGMS VB/FB @ Lyndon – 4:00/6:00 PM
9/28/09 – Camfel Assembly “Balance of Power” – 9:45 AM
9/30/09 – MTSS Bldg Leadership Meeting – 11:10 AM
9/30/09 – Staff Meeting for MS Teachers – 3:15 PM
9/30/09 – District MTSS Meeting – 4:30 PM

Welcome New Staff

Please welcome the following new educators to our middle school staff.

Cindy Schultz – Counselor (grades 4-8)
Pam Smith – Reading/LA (grade 7)
Deborah Martin – Reading (grades 7-8)

USD #417 Implements Multi-Tier System of Support – a.k.a. MTSS

Parents and students will begin to hear a new acronym...MTSS. MTSS stands for Multi-Tier System of Support which is the Kansas model for the federal intervention system called Response to Intervention or a.k.a. RtI. Simply put, MTSS is a better way to provide academic support or interventions for “all” kids in school no matter the academic need in the subject area of reading.

The MTSS “core belief” is that all kids can achieve at a high level, however, some kids need additional targeted instruction whether they are struggling or high achieving students. Students receive supplemental academic instruction outside of the regular Reading class time.

USD #417 is in year 1 MTSS implementation called “structuring.” District schools will vary in their model pending the schedule make-up and grade levels served. Parents with students in different schools and/or different levels are encouraged to contact the building principal to learn what MTSS looks like for their child. At the middle and high school levels, some students may not notice any change in their day while other students should be receiving additional instruction in the area of reading or math with an emphasis in the subject of reading.

All district schools begin the process with screening assessments in order to identify students needing supplemental instruction. Once a need is identified, schools may use other assessments to learn what individual skills need to be targeted then design a plan of instruction.

All district schools have revised their building schedules or have found ways to use or modify existing schedules to support the MTSS model. The challenges for schools include scheduling MTSS in a way that is fluid meaning students are not “locked” into a given schedule for longer than the need exists; finding that additional instruction time that is outside of the “core” instructional schedule; use of teaching staff so that supplemental skills are taught by certified teachers with expertise in reading; locating the supplemental instructional materials that are “not the same” as what is used in the “core” reading class; and identifying the progress monitoring (assessment) tools to know kids are learning what we’re teaching them.

Year 1 “structuring” is the year to work the “kinks” out of the challenges listed in the previous paragraph. Year 1 will not be perfect but it should yield positive results for students in spite of the challenges schools face in the initial stage of implementation.

CGMS Building Leadership Team

Sherry Edmiston, Principal
Dara Fillmore, 6th Grade Reading
Pam Smith, 7th Grade Reading

Shawn Fund, 8th Grade Reading
Teresa Disberger, Mathematics
Terry Burgett, Special Education
Cindy Schultz, Student Support/ Counselor

The building leadership team is responsible for ensuring that MTSS is implemented correctly. The team, along with other district schools' leadership teams, attended MTSS Leadership/Implementation Training on July 13, 14, 15, 2009.

On August 12, 2009, district building leadership teams conducted MTSS Training for their respective buildings. The training provided an overview of the MTSS process and the responsibilities of building team members and each individual staff member. All staff are important to the model with some members playing a larger or different role than others but all staff are critical to our success and what MTSS calls sustainability.

During August, the CGMS Building Leadership Team met four (4) times, twice each school week during Homeroom. Two meetings, one each week, were devoted to the MTSS process directly relating to students and addressed the following questions.

- Where are we with assessing student skill needs?
- What additional information do we need to target individual skills?
- What instructional resources are we using or what instructional resources do we still need?
- How will we know kids are progressing forward?

The other two meetings, one each week, addressed the components of MTSS that need to be in place for the system to operate. These include:

- Begin working on the foundational system structures which will be ongoing throughout the year
- Coordinating the building work with the district level Planning Team responsibilities

Parents are welcome to contact me or any leadership team member if they have questions. Additional information about MTSS can be found online at the Kansas Parent Resource Center website: <http://www.kpirc.org> and download "A Family Guide to Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS).

Behavior Bytes from the Counselor **September's Character Focus: Positive Mental Attitude**

For Parents: (adapted from *The Parent's Little Book of Lists* by Jane Bluestein, Ph.D.)

10 Ways to Encourage a Lifelong Love of Learning

- **Be a lifelong learner yourself.** Become a learning model. Take a class or try something new.
- **Encourage curiosity and exploration** without expectations or pressure to perform. Make learning a low-stress, fun experience. Investigate things you are curious about.
- **Look up words together** if you do not know what they mean. When your child asks you questions, instead of just providing answers, say, "Let's find out!" and investigate together.
- **Inspire a love of books.** Read regularly. Let your child see you read. Read to your child or let him read to you.
- **Encourage your child to try new things.** Even though it turns out to be more difficult or less fun than he'd

imagined, each new experience allows him to discover a little more about who he is and could be. Even though they're probably well intended, messages that suggest, "Oh, you wouldn't like that" or "I don't think you'd be very good at that" are disabling.

- **Notice others who continue learning** and trying new things. Point out models and examples of other lifelong learners to your child.
- **If your family watches TV, include at least some programming that is interesting, instructional,** and appropriate for the age and interests of your child. Talk about the shows you watch. Learn together!
- **Respect your child's learning styles and preferences.** Find out more about different ways people learn and the different learning preferences your child has.
- **Set a family goal to make a point of noticing or learning at least one thing you never saw or knew before.** Model enthusiasm about learning something new every day. Make time regularly for everyone to share what he or she has learned.
- **Lifelong learners need to know how to learn and where to find answers to questions!** Teach your child to use and explore reference materials to find out about things that interest him. In addition to traditional resources, explore the library and online resources together.

For Students: (adapted from *Life Lists for Teens* by Pamela Espeland)

5 Reasons Why Mistakes Are Great

Thomas Edison tried 1,500 different filaments for the light bulb before finding the right one. When asked how he felt about the 1,500 failures he replied, "They weren't failures. We now know 1,500 different light bulb filaments that won't work."

- **Mistakes are universal.** Everybody makes them so it gives us something in common.
- **Mistakes show that you are learning.** A mistake is a point of information that inspires you to do better the next time you are in a similar situation.
- **Mistakes show that you are trying something new or different.** If you had spent your whole life doing those things you could master on the first try, you would have never learned to walk, read, or ride a bike.
- **Mistakes allow you to see your own improvements.** If you videotaped your first attempt at the backstroke and then videotaped yourself after three months of lessons and practice, you would notice a significant change for the better.
- **Mistakes allow you to learn from others.** Asking for help is not the same as saying you failed.

"We can do no great things, only small things with great love."

--Mother Teresa

CSchultz
2009-2010

H1N1 Prevention and Planning

- Keep children who are sick at home. Don't send them to school or take them anywhere else, except to receive needed medical care. Ill children should stay home until they are fever free (**without the use of fever-reducing medicine like Tylenol or Ibuprofen**) for 24 hours or more.
- Plan for the possibility that you will be called to bring your child home from school if he or she gets sick while in

school.

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and insist that your children do the same. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into the bend of your elbow.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing, and see that your children follow your example. Alcohol-based hand cleaners will also work. This year all schools will make sure that children have the time and places to wash their hands often during the school day.
- Remind children to avoid touching their eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Make sure that your children practice other good health habits. See that they get plenty of sleep, get exercise, drink plenty of fluids, and eating healthy foods.
- Get your child vaccinated for seasonal flu soon. See that your child receives the H1N1 vaccine when it becomes available in the fall.
- Stay informed. Watch for information from your child's school.

The symptoms of H1N1 flu are similar to the symptoms of seasonal flu. They include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people have also reported diarrhea and vomiting. If you suspect that you or your child may have this illness, please call your local physician.

PTO Meeting Minutes – August 3, 2009 – Not Available



Middle School FB Recognition Night at CGHS Football Opener vs West Franklin – 9/4

Student football athletes will receive detailed information from coaches about this event. The student athlete letter will be posted on the Newsletter page on our website. Look for the pdf file listed in the “News Bytes” section.

Middle School VB Recognition Night at CGHS Volleyball Home Opener vs Osage City – 9/8

Student volleyball athletes will receive detailed information from coaches about this event. The student athlete letter will be posted on the Newsletter page on our website. Look for the pdf file listed in the “News Bytes” section.

CGMS Coaching/ Activity Sponsors 2009-2010

Football – Keith Grafel – Head Coach

Terry Burgett – Assistant Coach

Football practice is after school each day, 3:30-5:30, MS practice field.

Volleyball – Anita Mahanay – Head Coach

Amanda Henton – Assistant Coach

Volleyball practice is after school each day, 3:30-5:30, MS gym. Practice site will be either MS or HS pending practice schedule needs.

Cheerleading – Joany Fox

Student Council – Jennie Throne

Volleyball Roster for Fall 2009

8th Grade

Kelsey Bremer
Shaylee Fetters
Brier Fox
Erica Hecht
Kate Hula
Jodi Johnson
Michaela Peterson
Kaitlyn Powell
Katie Scott
Emily Watson
Emily Whitaker

7th Grade

Georgina Acosta
Amanda Anderson
Elizabeth Baker
Emilee Bowen
Monica Henton
Becky Hinch
Abby Ink
Matyson Leydig
Morgan Rickenbrode
Kacey Selby
Larisa Wilburn
Makaela Zuege

Managers: Nadine Armstrong, Erica Auchard, Jordan Birzer, Makenzie Ochoa, Chelsea Watson

Volleyball Schedule Details

Home events are held at CGHS in order to accommodate transportation between volleyball and football competitions.

Volleyball start time is 4:00 PM. There will be a 15 minutes warm-up for the “A” match and 10 minutes warm-up for the “B” match. Single net order of play is B-A-C. Upon mutual agreement, a D game with a running clock may be played after the C game. Two-net order of play is B-D, A-C at 4:00 PM.

In lieu of budget concerns and maintaining programs, coaches may be asked to officiate C and D team games.

Beginning Fall 2009, the FHJL Volleyball Tournament will be Junior Varsity only (A-Team). All teams will play clear through with no first round elimination.

Single Net Sites

- Council Grove – B-A-C-D
- Americus – B-A-C-D
- Chase County – B-A-C-D
- Herington – B-A-C-D

Double Net Sites

- Lyndon – B-D and A-C
- Mission Valley – B-D and A-C
- Osage City – B-D and A-C
- West Franklin – B-D and A-C

VB/FB Fall 2009 Schedule

September 3 – CGMS vs. Mission Valley – 4:00/6:00

September 10 – CGMS @ West Franklin – 4:00/6:00

September 17 – CGMS vs. Americus – 4:00/6:00

September 24 – CGMS @ Lyndon – 4:00/6:00

October 1 – CGMS vs. Osage City – 4:00/6:00

October 8 – CGMS @ Chase County – 4:00/6:00

October 15 – CGMS vs. Herington – 4:00/6:00

October 15 – 8th Grade Fall Sports Recognition Night

October 17 – FHJL VB Tourney @ Lyndon - TBA

Football Roster for Fall 2009

8th Grade

Ryan Adams
Aaron Bachura
Joshua Hinch
Trey Hughes
Austin LeMay
Layton Leydig
Damien Lopez
Dalton Metcalfe
Payton Wirtjes
Kolby Washburn
Nate Watts

7th Grade

Nick Boyce
Brandon Campbell
Dakota Crichton
Tristen Fetters
Colt Hiegert
Logan Litke
Jason Miner
Mitchell Wecker
Alex Wooden

Managers: Dalton Bacon, Chance Henke

Football Schedule Details

Football start time is 6:00 PM. 5th Quarter option is available pending the decision of coaches at each site.

Activity Attendance Policy for Students

USD 417 appreciates your cooperation in addressing safety and security issues.

Students/children in grade 5 or below are **required to be accompanied by their parents or a responsible adult** while in attendance at USD 417 school activities.

Students/children in grade 5 or below will be required to be seated with their parents or a responsible adult. Youth will not be allowed to roam unattended around the building or grounds.

Thank you for your cooperation.

USD #417 BOE Approved for 2008-2009

CGMS Activity Student Attendance

Expectations CGMS student non-athletes are encouraged to attend extracurricular activities and support their school athletic programs. Students are expected to sit in the designated student section and support our teams by cheering along with the cheerleaders. Students choosing inappropriate behavior or

roaming around can be sent home and may be asked not to return unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Fall Sports Athlete Reminders Students must maintain required academic and behavior standards when involved in sports or other extracurricular activities. Parents and students should review *Scholastic Eligibility, pp 3-5 in the CGMS Student Handbook*.

Flint Hills Junior League Meeting

Minutes - May 27, 2009

Members Present

Americus Middle School yes
Chase County Middle School yes
Council Grove Middle School yes
Herington Middle School yes
Lyndon Middle School yes
Mission Valley Junior High yes
Osage City Middle School yes
West Franklin Middle School yes

Agenda: moved by Osage City; 2nd by Americus; 8-0 approved

Minutes: moved by West Franklin; 2nd by Council Grove; 8-0 approved minutes

Treasure Report: \$4,679.60 moved by Herington; 2nd by Council Grove; 8-0 approved treasure report

Old Business:

1. Commissioner contract approval: Has been returned
2. Host School Rotation Extension: Moved by; 2nd by approved 8-0
2009-2010 see current league schedule
2010-2011
Volleyball West Franklin
Basketball Council Grove
Track Chase County
Quiz Bowl Mission Valley
Vocal Osage City
Band Lyndon
Scholarship Test Americus
3. Officer Rotation Extension
See league schedule for 2009-2012
4. League Plaques:

New Business

1. League Track Meet Set Date and Format: May 10th with May 12th as make update. Start time at 10:30 with coaches meeting at 10:00. All field events done before running events start. Held at SFT hosted by West Franklin
2. Fall meeting date and Location
First league meeting will be August 27, 2009 starting at 9:30 at Council Grove
3. Need Vocal Music Selections for the October 22, 2009 Vocal Clinic at ESU
4. Need Band Music Selections for the February 4, 2009 Band Clinic at ESU

Volleyball Tournament Format: Tournament will be played all the way through varsity games only at Lyndon on October 17, 2009