

PreK-8 Principal Board Report March 2025

Happy St. Patrick's Day and Happy Spring (it's coming!). We had a great time celebrating I Love to Read Month last month. Here are some data points from the month:

We had just shy of 60 students handing in their challenge boards

47 of those students completed all 25 challenges

Onamia Elementary students read more than 1,200 times in the month of February

Prizes are on the way for these students, including a custom made t-shirt for Raiders Read! I also challenged our staff members and shared data from those challenges with the students to show them that reading can and is truly a lifelong activity.

We had a PBIS meeting on Friday last week to work through what the final celebration/store will look like for the year. This included a reminder of a bounce house that the kids loved in the past. We've heard loud and clear that the students want it back....so we're trying to figure out where to grab some funds from to make it happen.

Regarding personnel and staffing for the remainder of the year and next school year: We're pulling a couple of in-house teachers to cover the maternity leaves this spring. 1st grade has already started and 3rd grade will begin sometime shortly after the Easter weekend. I had an interview for one of two anticipated openings in the general education classrooms on Friday. We don't want to lose her, so I offered her a "general classroom teacher" position on Friday afternoon and she verbally accepted on the phone. She is an Onamia family member which is great. I am hoping that all anticipated openings will be solidified and confirmed prior to the April board meeting-I would love the end the year completely set for next fall if possible.

Our upcoming Staff Development/Workshop day on Tuesday, March 25th will start with a staff meeting (including a discussion regarding MCAs from Mr. Hermel). Then, we have a demonstration of eduClimber from our partners at Renaissance Learning for our Student Success Team, Child Study Team members and anyone interested. And finally, Mary Spaulding will hold a 2.5 hour meeting for the ELA Curriculum Review Team to try to get some decisions made so we can bring a plan to you prior to the end of the year. With the new standards and the science of reading being reinforced at the legislative level, we want to have a plan in place to pilot something in the fall.

I want to thank the middle school teachers for their work towards getting an initial data point for screenings with FastBridge in the past couple of weeks. They have asked questions and made sure that the student is the center of all pieces of information coming at us and I am grateful.