



Center ISD School Board News

Academic Teaming

Center Middle School implemented academic teaming this year after studying and planning the program last year. The core academic teachers in math, science social studies and English/language arts meet during the school day for parent conferences, student conferences, to provide student tutorials, to plan curriculum, and monitor student progress. Middle school teachers and administrators are working hard to make this program successful so that the needs of all students are met. Improved attendance, increased number of students passing the TAKS[Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills] test, reduced number of students failing, and better prepared students for success in high school are just some of the expected outcomes of this program. Academic teaming has allowed the campus to be more student centered in which the needs of the students drive the decisions made in all areas including budgeting, curriculum, instruction, and staffing. Middle school principal Heath Hagler, along with his staff are to be congratulated for the work and dedication that it took to implement this program that strives to meet the needs of students.

School Safety

With the recent school shootings at Virginia Tech, School safety is again on the minds of the community. Center ISD staff does everything possible to ensure the safety of the students and staff. Region & Educational Service Center recently conducted a safety audit of all Center ISD campuses. The report noted that when an audit member tried to enter the campus as an intruder would, he was immediately stopped by school staff and asked to identify himself. Any person who is not a student or staff must go through the school office first and receive a visitor's pass. Cameras that monitor the halls and parking lots are currently installed on with plans to install them on the other campuses. A school safety plan is located in every classroom that outlines the procedures staff and students are to follow in every emergency event. The recent quick evacuation of the high school when a false bomb threat was called in was an example of a quick response to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Other items noted in the safety audit that help ensure the safety of students and staff were the cleanliness of the campuses, covered walkways, well kept, safe and secured bus barn and maintenance building, emergency operations plans in place, annual facility safety programs review, 2 day supply food/water reserve monitored and maintained, expansion of camera systems to include more campuses and buses, fire alarms; exit signs; and fire extinguishers all current, and intra-campus and inter-campus communications sources in place that allow for communication within and among the campuses.

The safety audit team recommendations included a review of the emergency operation standards, a need to post drug, alcohol, and tobacco free school zones signs at all district



facilities, and consider a plan to phase out all temporary buildings. The safety audit team noted that the solutions to most of the recommendations already in the planning stages.

The summary of the safety audit report stated, “Center ISD provides its students with an extremely safe and secure school environment which is the most important factor, in continuing to be a positive example of how such an environment positively impacts the achievement of their students. We fully understand that leaders, teachers, and staff have overcome and adopted to the physical limitations on all their campuses and the expectation is that they will continue to do so with the anticipation of achievable future goals for improvement.

The school board appreciates the efforts of the staff of Center ISD to ensure the safety of out students and staff.