

## Principal's Trimester Report to the Raymond School Board

Bob Bickford, Principal, Iber Holmes Gove Middle School

2020-2021, 1st Trimester Report, December 10, 2020

<b>Highlights</b>	<p>This has been an interesting trimester for the middle school. The students and staff adjusted very quickly to the new routines put in place by the Reopening Plan. The screening procedures went smoothly right from the beginning. We have very few refusals by students to wear face coverings or to maintain social distancing. Everyone worked together to make the best of our challenging new school environment.</p>
<b>Acknowledgments</b>	<p>This school year has definitely been a team effort. Everyone has worked together and have made the best of our new normal, whether it be hybrid or remote. Kudos to everyone; students and staff alike!</p> <p>I risk leaving anyone out if I single anyone or group out for special recognition and I will apologize in advance but I have to give special recognition to our teachers as they are doing double and triple duty! Most of the teachers in the other two schools were teaching either hybrid students or remote students before the students went all remote recently. All but seven of our teachers have both hybrid and remote students almost every day. When we are in hybrid mode our middle school teachers are preparing and implementing lessons for the students that are in person, assignments for their days at home, and for our remote students week in and week out. Even on the numerous phone calls to parents over the months prior to going remote when I told them that their child was a close contact to someone who tested positive and had to quarantine for an extended period of time, every parent took that news graciously and not one of them expressed any concern toward the school or our staff. That certainly made the unenviable task much more pleasant. Thank you to everyone, students, staff, and parents alike!</p>
<b>Updates</b>	<p>The addition of the 4th grade to the middle school has been almost seamless. We believe that is in large part due to the amount of time that was given to work on the logistics of the transition and the actual embedding of the additional grade into the fabric of the school. It is like they have always been here!</p> <p>The addition of the two part-time social workers and the full-time substance abuse counselor to our school in support of our students and their families has been an invaluable addition to the efforts of our school counselors and YEES caseworker.</p>
<b>Challenges</b>	<p>As noted above, this entire school year has been a significant challenge requiring everyone to “do school” differently than they ever have had to do it before; students, staff, and families alike. About the only constant that we all have experienced this year is the almost constant state of change. It is perceived that just as we get into new routines, something changes and new routines have to be developed. An outcome of this constant state of change is that the stress level has significantly increased across the board, which also is not having a positive effect on the overall culture and climate of the building. A common observation is that even though we are not even halfway through the school year is that people are feeling like they do at the end of the school year. Whatever we can do to thank the staff for all that they do, all the hard work they are doing, and to ensure that we respect them as valued members of the school community, needs to be shared with them.</p> <p>We have a higher percentage of students that are not fully engaged in their classes than we have in a normal school year. This time last year we had not sent out any 10-day absence letters and this year we have sent 23. Last year at the end of 1st trimester we had 110 failing grades. This year there are 165 in just grades 6-8. 43 students in 4th &amp; 5th grade have 2 or more competency scores 1.5 or less with a total of 217 competencies 1.5 or less. Our Student Intervention Team is actively engaged in working with teachers, students, and their families in an effort to support the students in whatever way that we can. We’ve attempted many online meetings with parents inquiring what we can do to support them. Those parents who have met are grateful for the collaboration. Unfortunately, there are more parents who have not attended the meetings than have attended. We will continue working on creative ways to provide support during this very abnormal year.</p>

Discipline	IHGMS 20/21 1st Term Discipline Report						
	Grade	Referrals	# of Students	In-School Restriction	# of Students	Out of School Suspension	# of Students
	4th	4	3	0	0	0	0
	5th	17	8	0	0	5.5	1
	6th	21	7	0	0	0	0
	7th	6	7	0	0	0	0
	8th	<u>32</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>3</u>
	Totals	80	46	0	0	25.5	4
	Term 19/20	348	114	24	20	11	4

**Top 5 infractions by the number of referrals for the marking term:** Technology violation, defiance, disruption, tardy, and disrespect.

Student Achievement	IHGMS Honor Roll					
		Honors	High Honors	Totals	Enrollment	
	4th	-	-	-	4th	79
	5th	-	-	-	5th	88
	6th	20	3	23	6th	84
	7th	30	3	33	7th	102
	8th	<u>19</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>20</u>	8th	<u>87</u>
	Totals	69	7	76	Totals	440

Bullying		# of Reports		# Investigated		# Substantiated	
		Term	Year	Term	Year	Term	Year
	Bullying	0	0				
Cyberbullying	0	0					

**Upcoming Events** We are very much looking forward to having our students return to school starting Tuesday, January 19th, 2021!

**Other** We are all hoping that this is truly a unique year and that we can return for the 2021-2022 school year with some semblance of normalcy!  
From all of us at IHGMS, we wish you and our community a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!