

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

Bob Bickford, Principal, Iber Holmes Gove Middle School

2020-2021, 2nd Trimester Report, April 1, 2021

Highlights	5th & 6th Grade - We are getting ready to do an abbreviated version Nature’s Classroom the week before April Break 6th -6th grade won the food drive. 7th - We are just starting to plan a 7th grade field trip (maybe whale-watching) and we are super excited about this opportunity! 8th - One 8th grade homeroom brought in more than 250 food items for the NJHS food drive. 8th grade lost by only 4 items to the 6th grade. UA - Virtual art show featuring artists from Mrs. Lessard’s classes School Wide - NJHS organized a food drive which resulted in almost 1,200 items being donated to Raymond Community Action and End 68 Hours of Hunger																																		
Acknowledgements	7th - Students are reading <u>The Giver</u> in ELA with Ms. Sharrow - one of our fully remote students, Sadie Hartford, emailed the author <i>on her own initiative</i> and the author emailed her back! We love seeing kids be this excited about what they are reading!  The faculty and staff continue to support our students regardless of what else is happening around them. Many have volunteered to help with the planning and implementation of our after school, summer and next school year academic support for our many, many struggling students in all grease levels. These efforts are being led by our assistant principal, Brigitte Cunningham. We can’t thank the faculty and staff enough for all that they have done and continue to do for our students at IHGMS.																																		
Updates	The 8th grade class trip continues to be finalized and moving forward. There will be two groups of students of about 28 students each with 3 chaperones each. One group will leave day 1 and return day 2 and the other group will leave day 2 and return day 3. The most cost effective transportation is for us to use a coach bus company. The school bus companies don’t have the drivers to be able to provide 3 all day round trips.  The IHGMS Student Intervention Team (SIT) continues to look at data to identify students who are in need of both academic and social/emotional support. It is no surprise that the vast majority of these students that are struggling have some common circumstances. The most common is that the majority of these students are home alone without the essential adult support and supervision. We meet with parents of students who have high absenteeism and do poorly academically to see what we can do as a school to support the family and the student. For the most part the parents are at a loss of what to do as they have to return to work. The return to school full time and the ability of these students to be able to stay after school for tutoring should help these students move in the right direction.																																		
Challenges	One of the biggest challenges we continue to face is getting remote students to participate in classroom activities and discussions, approximately 90% of remote students attend class sessions with cameras off. We have tried games, breakout rooms and other types of activities to help students to be more engaged in their learning, but this remains a challenge.  We are strongly recommending that if a remote option is going to be provided by the district for the coming school year that there be some sort of approval process developed that includes evidence of successful engagement in prior remote learning.																																		
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