

Principal's Quarterly Report to the Raymond School Board

Bob Bickford, Principal, Iber Holmes Gove Middle School

2017-2018, 1st Qtr Report, Nov. 9, 2017

<p>Highlights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5th Grade - Responsive Classroom, Creating Classroom Constitutions, Exploring with science tools, Pumpkin Day, Constitution Day, Dot Day, Halloween Social, Red Ribbon Week ● 6th Grade - Responsive Classroom, Language: Spelling and Types of Writing, Math: Order of Operations, Positive Numbers, the Number Line, Prime Factorization, Distributive Property Social Studies: Rise of Cities (ancient civilizations) Science: Air Pressure, Energy in Earth’s Atmosphere, Heat Transfer, and Wind, Red Ribbon Week, Team building, Mt. Major hiking field trip ● 7th Grade - The Revealers in LA. Math - Order of Operations & Fractions, Decimals and Percents Science - River Trip, UNH Ocean Discovery Day field trip ● 8th Grade - Expository Essay, Copper Sun, and Earth Sun Moon system, Budget for Life, Corn Maze Team Building Field Trip
<p>Acknowledgements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Friendship Award Winners September: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5th - Riley Ward and Caleb Pekalsky, ○ 6th - Elliot King and Aviana Cormier, ○ 7th - Hannah Lafond and Erik Fitzgerald-Farrini ○ 8th - Sophie Rugoletti, Spencer Marchand ● Friendship Award Winners October: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5th - Riley Ward, Caleb Pekalsky ○ 6th - Alex Goran, Maddy Brannan ○ 7th - Delia Wright, Ben Dolan ○ 8th - Briana Waldron, Spencer Marchand ● UA - Art students at Deerfield Fair received a blue ribbon for the school’s exhibit! ● Very successful Open House, huge turn out! The parking lot was overflowing, literally! A special Thank You to all of students’ families and their Teachers! ● Our teacher teams have been working very hard in their Professional Learning Communities (PLC). They have developed a purpose statement to focus their PLC work: <i>“The purpose of our PLC work is to validate, reflect and provide new ideas and feedback in a supportive, structured environment to promote growth oriented professional practice.”</i> The teams are currently developing their grade level Teaching Improvement Goals. They are all working together to improve their practice with a focus on improving student learning.
<p>Updates</p>	<p>Building Responsible Learners: The first few weeks of school all homerooms did a number of lessons as part of our unit on Building Responsible Learners. The lessons went well, the teachers were very creative in designing and implementing engaging learning activities. Students have already done one round of goals review with their homeroom teachers. Unfortunately we are challenged in collecting data efficiently around if students are doing their work well and one time. We had hoped to collect this data through a report in PowerSchool related to work being completed on time but have yet to secure a program that will allow us to do so. This is also hindering our ability to recognize those students who work hard and get their work done on time but don’t make the honor roll.</p>
<p>Challenges</p>	<p>One of our most significant challenges right now is the lack of qualified applicants for open positions. We have an open paraprofessional position and two Title I tutor</p>

	positions that we are unable to fill as we have not had any qualified applicants. We also have a shortage of substitute teachers and substitute paraeducators. To complicate this challenge there is a new state law that prohibits us from using special education paraeducators as substitutes when we don't have enough subs for teachers.																											
Discipline	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Grade</u></th> <th><u>Referrals</u></th> <th><u>ISR</u></th> <th><u>OSS</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5th</td> <td>65</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6th</td> <td>78</td> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7th</td> <td>26</td> <td>2</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>8th</u></td> <td><u>64</u></td> <td><u>9</u></td> <td><u>2</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>233</td> <td>13</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Referrals</u>	<u>ISR</u>	<u>OSS</u>	5th	65	1	0	6th	78	1	3	7th	26	2	0	<u>8th</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>	TOTAL	233	13	5			
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	<p>This is the first time in several years that the number of referrals has increased as compared to the same time period the previous year. (But the number in-school and out-of school suspensions went down.) There are some indications when we dig into the data a little deeper to see what may be some of the causes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This year's 5th grade has 30% more referrals than last year's 5th grade. ● This year's 8th grade has had a 68% increase in referrals as compared to 1st Qtr last year as 7th graders. ● This year's 6th grade has a 277% decrease in referrals as compared to the same time last year as 5th graders! ● The number of minor defiance referrals has doubled as compared to last year. ● The number of referrals for being tardy four or more times has decreased by 42%. <p>Our Behavior Action Team (BAT) will be looking at this data to determine what steps we need to take as a school to address those areas where there is a significant increase on occurrences. They will also be looking at ways to celebrate those areas where we have seen significant decreases.</p>																											
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Upcoming Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5th Grade - Wonder fieldtrip to O'Neil Cinema, Culture Fair, Parent/ Teacher conferences, bottle biology, Thanksgiving feast ● 6th Grade - Parent/Teacher Conferences, Wonder fieldtrip to O'Neil Cinema ● 7th Grade - Doug Whilhem , author of The Revealers will be visiting 7th and 8th Grade. Special thanks to Parent Core for funding. ● 8th Grade - American Independence Museum Field Trip ● UA - Winter Concert: December 15th, 7pm. (Snow date December 19th, 7pm) 																											
Other	Everyone is working hard and we don't hear it often enough about how everyone's efforts are making a difference but here is unsolicited testimony that it is!																											