

Principal's School Opening Report to the Raymond School Board

Bob Bickford, Principal, Iber Holmes Gove Middle School

2018-2019, September 5, 2018

Highlights	<p>We had two days of professional development and classroom preparation followed by a very smooth opening of school.</p>																		
Acknowledgements	<p>We have an amazing staff at IHGMS and we can't thank them enough for all their efforts to ensure a smooth start to the new school year! Todd and our head custodian, Sara Geno, did a wonderful job of maintaining comfortable school conditions by keeping a vigilant eye on the HVAC controls during the high heat conditions last week. Everyone at IHGMS appreciates their efforts!</p> <p>The custodial staff once again did an amazing job of a deep cleaning of the entire school. The school was literally sparkling for the return of the staff and students.</p> <p>Our secretarial staff endured a summer of construction in our school office. They were flexible in being relocated and getting all that needed to be done over the summer as construction happened sporadically around them.</p> <p>The vast majority of our staff came in out their own time to ensure that their classrooms were set up and ready to go for their students on the first day of school.</p> <p>A special thank you to our Parent Core Group for funding our Welcome Back gifts for the faculty and staff. This year we have IHGMS bags for all the work that everyone takes home and back to school and IHGMS lanyards for their ID badges.</p> <p>On behalf of the students, their families, the faculty and staff, we would like to thank the Board for their support in reinstating the YEES caseworker at IHGMS.</p>																		
Updates	<p>Benchmark assessments will be complete of all our students in reading and math by the time of the board meeting. Our Response to Intervention team will be meeting on Sept. 6th to assign students to Rtl groups for the next 6 weeks. Our first Rtl sesion start on Sept. 10th.</p>																		
Challenges	<p>The students, staff and visitors to our school are adapting quickly to the new, partially complete, security entrance to our school. We knew when the project was initiated that it was going to very tight scheduling to have everything in place for the start of school. Ninety percent of the schools in our state were awarded funds to improve school safety so there has been much activity across the state with similar projects. In particular the School Guard glass that is to be installed in the office entry and the divider doors in the gym lobby. We look forward to these projects being complete.</p>																		
Upcoming Events	<p>Teams are planning their grade wide activities for the year including field trips, interdisciplinary units, and fundraising. Tryouts for our soccer teams was delayed for a couple of days due to the excessive heat last week, but the seasons are well underway.</p>																		
Other	<p>Opening enrollments as of Aug. 29:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">New Students</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Withdrawn Students (June 19-Aug. 29)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5th - 104</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6th - 101</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7th - 89</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8th - <u>85</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>2</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">379</td> <td style="text-align: center;">17</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		New Students	Withdrawn Students (June 19-Aug. 29)	5th - 104	8	8	6th - 101	4	5	7th - 89	4	5	8th - <u>85</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	379	17	20
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