



# News & Update

Principal: Toby Kite  
September 7, 2011

## Special dates of interest:

- Sep. 15: Volleyball vs. Buffalo (Away)
- Sep. 15: Cross Country (Home)
- Sep. 16: 1st Quarter Progress Reports Sent Home
- Sep. 19: Volleyball vs. Reed's Spring (Away)
- Sep. 20: Football vs. Reed's Spring (Home)
- Sep. 20: Volleyball vs. Hollister (Home)
- Sep. 22: Cross Country vs. Willard (Away)
- Sep. 26: Volleyball vs. Republic (Home)
- Sep. 27: Football vs. Bolivar (Away)
- Sep. 27: Volleyball vs. Nixa (Away)
- Sep. 29: Cross Country @ Marshfield
- Sep. 29: Volleyball vs. Bolivar (Away)
- Oct. 1: 7th Grade Volleyball Tourney @ Marshfield
- Oct. 3: Volleyball vs. Willard (Home)
- Oct. 4: Cross Country @ Catholic
- Oct. 4: Football vs. Buffalo (Away)
- Oct. 5 & 6: Play Try-outs (2:30 pm)
- Oct. 6: Cross Country (Home)
- Oct. 6: Volleyball vs. Marshfield (Away)
- Oct. 8: Volleyball (Ozark)

## Off and Running

A student speaking to his peers about the different parts of a motorcycle engine, teams of students working together to identify a country based on the clues they have received, students flipping through a dictionary identifying words they can use in a board game, students in the library studying for an upcoming mathematics quiz, and some students working to complete a missing assignment so they will not receive a zero in class. These are just a few examples of some of the activities taking place during the first couple of weeks of our 5.5 hour. This is the first year we have offered this period, and

## Early Out Fridays

The middle school staff has used the first couple of Fridays of the 2011-12 school year to look at our AYP and APR data from the previous school year. From this data, departmental teams are in the process of developing SMART (Strategic/Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Results-based, Time-bound) goals that will guide them in discussions and projects through the course of the year.

although it is early, we are pleased with the way it is progressing. Students are excited about their enrichment courses and look forward to attending them. The intent of the period is to motivate students to stay on top of their assignments and grades and to provide our staff the opportunity to intervene with students as they begin to struggle. Many times during enrichment courses the students interact with one another and do not realize the skill sets they are receiving. For example, the student discussing the motor with the rest of the class, was excited to talk to his peers about something he enjoys.

The middle school staff is also in the process of developing a positive behavior program to promote good behavior and positive attitude from the students. Once developed the program is intended to promote good attitude, positive behavior, and academic preparation in the classroom. The middle school staff has just begun the brainstorming process of developing the program. We

From the teacher's perspective, he is gaining valuable public speaking skills. 5.5 hour is a creative way to get kids more interested in school and allow teachers the opportunity to better help students that need assistance. We know it is early in the process, however, we believe the 5.5 hour is going to be a positive way of utilizing a small part of our day to meet the needs of our students.

hope to have a system in place and ready to implement by the end of the first quarter.