Report to the Board of Education
March 10, 2020
Mark Mathews
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3/6/20-Interim 3 ends
3/10/20-BOE Meeting
3/12/20-Grades 5-8 Roller Skating party-NRWE 6:00
3/24-3/27/20-New York State ELA Exam

NYS ELA and Math testing

We strive to provide engaging learning environments for all students that emphasize mastery of essential content, concepts and skills. The result is well-rounded students who understand what they have learned and can apply it across content areas and beyond the walls of the classroom. Participating in statewide assessments is one way they demonstrate their learning, however, it is not the end goal.

We are continuing our transition towards computer-based testing. This year, students in grades 3-6 will participate in computer-based testing in ELA and Math. Your child frequently uses their Chromebook in the classroom, and he or she will use their own Chromebooks during testing.

Additionally, we will provide access to a computer mouse and paper/pencil supplies for computation and notetaking. Our students have demonstrated a quickness and comfort in signing into and navigating our software, and we are confident that this transition will not affect their assessment experience in a negative way.

To accommodate the computer needs and scheduling hurdles, our testing schedule is flexible. See the chart below for the administration dates for each grade level.

Grades 5-8 will begin at 8:00 am

NYS ELA Assessment	Grade 5 Grade 6 Grade 7 Grade 8	March 26th-27th March 24th-25th March 25th-26th March 25th-26th	Computer-Based Testing Computer-Based Testing Paper-Based Testing Paper-Based Testing
NYS Mathematics Assessment	Grade 5 Grade 6 Grade 7 Grade 8	April 22nd-23rd April 20th-21st April 21st-April 22nd April 21st-April 22nd	Computer-Based Testing Computer-Based Testing Paper-Based Testing Paper-Based Testing
NYS Science Assessment	Grade 8	May 26-June 3	Paper-Based Testing

Maureen Sweeney (MS Counselor) and Mindy Spencer (Reading teacher) will share the many benefits Cougar News provides to the news crew members, such as leadership, public speaking, journalism, STEAM (technology), pride in our school, collaboration, time management, and to the Middle School as a whole, such as connection between buildings, highlighting student work, Cougar Pride booster lessons and social emotional learning (character trait of the month)

Cougar News Video for BOE presentation

1. Cougar News staff introduce themselves. "I'm _____, and I like being a part of Cougar News because _____"
2. Show list of jobs/assignments and include behind the scenes pictures of kids doing those jobs.
3. Our trip to Apple
4. Find clips of variety of our features – character trait of the month, Shout Out, guest interviews, sports highlights, what's happening in the classroom, Black History Month facts, celebrations, etc
5. Teacher and Student Testimonials
6. Group Thank You

Attendance Celebration: This month we recognized all the students who had perfect attendance in the month of January. We celebrated with extra recess time in the snow.

Character trait of the month: For the month of February, we focused on compassion. Town hall meetings and community circles taught students how self-awareness applies to school-wide expectations. We discussed how to act upon the positive choices we make each day. In March, students will learn about perseverance.

Just for fun: Below are pictures of the 8 go 9 orientation where middle school students heard from 9th grade teachers about what to expect next year and course choices. Middle school students then toured the classrooms to see what electives are offered and heard from the teachers offering those courses.

This month we celebrated all of our students who received awards for the 2nd marking period.

We had a great number of students receive honor roll, high honor roll, or principals honor roll this month as seen below!

We concluded the month with a glow dance. Black lights created the “glow” effect. We had almost 150 students attend this dance!

Middle School Enrollment – 2019-2020:

5th grade	95
6th grade	97
7th grade	69
8th grade	106