

## **Elementary Principal Report**

### **December 2024**

#### Christmas Program

The K-6 Christmas program, *Broadway Santa*, was held on December 3rd. A big thank you to Mrs. Leising, Mrs. Sharp, and the many volunteers that helped make the program such a success. The fifth and sixth grade band members were able to showcase their instrumental skills, while all the students were able to share their vocal talents. As always, community attendance was excellent, and it was a lot of fun.

#### Scholastic Book Fair

The annual Scholastic Book Fair took place from December 2nd - 6th. Mrs. Klein does a great job of setting up, managing, and promoting the book fair. This event fosters a love of reading and supports literacy in our school. The last time I talked to Mrs. Klein, she was pretty sure that book sales were going to exceed the 250 books sold goal. Looks like Mr. Perez and I will be wearing dinosaur costumes and racing each other in the near future. Strong participation from students and families make this project worthwhile and a great success.

#### NSCAS Assessment Results (2023-2024)

The results from the NSCAS Assessment taken last spring by students in grades 3-8, indicate continued growth in the areas of Reading, Math, and Science. My personal goal was for our students to be 50% or more proficient in all 9 tested areas. We were close to meeting that goal as we were able to get 8 out of 9. The following results represent the percentage of students that were proficient: Grade 3 Reading 75% Math 62% Grade 4 Reading 60% Math 40% Grade 5 Reading 54% Math 82% Grade 6 Reading 54% Math 75% Science 96%. There is always room for improvement, but overall, our students and teachers did a great job!

#### Winter NSCAS Assessment

The winter NSCAS testing dates are set for December 11th and 12th. These mid-year assessments provide valuable data for teachers and give students the opportunity to work with the tools provided within the test and to a certain degree experience the type of questions they will see in the spring.

#### State Principals Conference

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Nebraska State Principals Conference in Lincoln on December 4th and 5th. The conference focused on best practices in educational leadership, student engagement, and strategies for improving academic achievement. This conference is a great way to network with other principals throughout the state and learn more about recently passed legislation and new NDE requirements. Thank you for allowing me to attend this professional development.

### Cowboy Poet

On December 18th, Cowboy R.P. Smith of Broken Bow will visit Arapahoe-Holbrook Public School. We are currently planning an elementary assembly, high school assembly, and the opportunity for Mr. Smith to work with small groups of students during the day. Mr. Smith will offer students a unique opportunity to experience storytelling, poetry, and culture from Nebraska's rich cowboy heritage. This special event promises to be both educational and entertaining for all grade levels. I would like to thank Mr. Henderson for suggesting R.P as a guest speaker and helping to organize his visit.

### End of Quarter 2

The second quarter will end on December 20th. Students and staff have worked diligently throughout the semester, and we look forward to celebrating their hard work by attending a holiday movie at the Crystal Theater. Hopefully, everyone will get to enjoy a well deserved break and come back refreshed for the second half of the school year.