



CMS NEWS



Middle School AR Program

The 7th and 8th grade Reading students of Mr. Barnes and Mrs. McCoy were lighting up Mrs. McCoy's room. On December 1, Mrs. McCoy hung strings of Christmas lights around the walls of her classroom. However, the bulbs were not tightly screwed into their sockets. Each time a student read an AR book, and passed the accompanying Accelerated Reader Test, that student got to screw one of the light bulbs in. This proved to be quite a motivational tool for the 7th and 8th grade students. By December 19 (the last day before the Christmas Break), the students had lit 125 bulbs. This means that there were 125 books read in a three week period. Mr. Barnes and Mrs. McCoy are very proud of these students.



Math Winners

Mr. Myers sixth grade math classes have been working on sizes and dimensions through the use of hands on houses constructed of posterboard. The students were to graph out a house using standard measurements; then, they constructed a house to match their measurements. A winner was chosen by Mr. Haynes from each of the three classrooms. The winners were Iris Perry, Ana Rodriguez, and Kassidy Pruitt in one class; Michelle Garrettson, Conner Kurtz, and Daniel Esponosa in the second class; and, Homero Cabellos, Travis Allen and Hannah Barker in the third class.



EVENTS

January

- 02-05 Fairland 7th basketball Tournament
- 05 2nd Semester Begins
- 07 6/8 Basketball (H) Afton
- 08 Grade Cards go Out
- 12 Board Meeting
- 13 Basketball Team Pictures
- 14 6th Basketball (H) Quapaw
- 15 7/8 Basketball (H) Fairland
- 22 Tulsa TSA Conference
- 22-24 NEO Tournament
- 28 6th Basketball (T) Quapaw
- 29 7/8 Basketball (T) Quapaw



February

- 02 Progress Reports Go Out
- 04 - 6 8th Basketball Tournament Wyandotte
- 05 Parent Conferences 3:30 - 6:30
- 06 Parent Conferences 8:30 - 11:30
- 07 TSA to Claremore
- 09 Board Meeting
- 13 Professional Development
- 24 NEO Tech. Festival
- 25 8th Grade Writing Test
- 28 Shanna Miller Fund Raiser

ZAP

On Monday, January 5th-2009, Commerce Middle School will replace 8th Period with a new program called 'ZAP' which is an acronym for "Zeroes Aren't Permitted". The program will involve all 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students. The purpose of this program is to encourage students in need to become more responsible and motivated to turn in their daily assignments. Here is how the program works:

If a student comes to school without an assignment or an assignment that is incomplete, they are given a ZAP notice. The student will be required to bring the ZAP notice back to school the next school day signed by their parent along with the completed assignment. If both of these requirements are met the student will have 10% deducted from their grade and the ZAP process ends.

If the student does not return the signed ZAP notice and/or the missing assignment, the student is automatically assigned an after school ZAP period. The ZAP period will be served on that day if it is a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday or on the first day ZAP period is offered. The student will be required to stay after school from 3:10 PM to 4:00 PM on the assigned day or be considered truant. Students serving ZAP detention must be picked up promptly at 4:00 PM. Transportation home will not be provided by the school. At this point if the student completes the missing assignment the ZAP process ends. The student will have 10% deducted from the assignment each day it is late with a maximum deduction of 40%. If the student fails to turn in the missing assignment, the student will be assigned a 3 hour Saturday detention. Saturday detentions are held from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the High School. Students must enter the building no later than 9:00 AM. At 9:00 AM the doors are locked. If, after serving the Saturday detention, the student completes and turns in the missing assignment the ZAP process ends. If the completed assignment is not received after the Saturday detention, the student will be assigned in-school suspension until the assignment is completed.

ZAP is considered part of the regular school day for students needing remediation due to the lack of academic performance. Any student assigned to ZAP that does not attend will be counted absent. Excessive absences will require the school to report such absences to the Ottawa County District Attorney's Office. See more information regarding excessive absences in your Parent-Student Handbook.

With your support, the ZAP program will make a positive impact on student achievement and success. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to call me at 675-4101 or come by my office.

Sincerely,

Principal
Commerce Middle School