DRMS School Council Meeting Minutes 12/12/23

Members present:
Ms. Dawn Weinbaum, Principal
Matt Jackson
Jason Kozlowski
Lisa Hicks
Kim Colvin
Mindee Calabrese, teacher
Misty Harper, teacher

Absent:
Nicole Dailey

Welcome

- Welcome to new council members and welcome back to existing members.
- Introductions of members: Matt Jackson, Jason Koslowski, Lisa E, Kim Colvin, Mindee Calabrese, Misty Harper, Nicole (absent), Ms. Weinbaum
- Ms. Weinbaum shared information about her background in education in Cherokee County and prior.

Week before the break

- Dress up days – some are in conjunction with donations to St. Jude
- Email via parent square with announcements for:
  - Tuesday, Dec 19th – 2 final exams during scheduled block periods
  - Wednesday, Dec 20th - 2 final exams during scheduled block periods
    - The block schedule is during exam week, not regularly scheduled.
    - Reminder to check Canvas for information for the week.
    - Exams are not required, projects and presentations are acceptable.
  - Thursday, Dec 21st – CCSD Early Release (12: 45 DRMS release time)
    - Buses will run early.
    - There is no early check out plan. Please remember it there may be a long line if you check out your student early that day.
    - Thursday is a modified scheduled by grade level.
    - Friday is a teacher workday.

Basketball

- The only sport affiliated with the school are basketball and cheerleading. Junior programs support other sports.
- Playoffs are around the end of January/early February.
- All 4 teams are either in 1st place or tied for 1st place.

Elementary and HS Transition for SY 2024-25

- 8th grade transition is earlier than usual. Communication has been sent by Mr. Martin.

- Misty Harper provided information about SHS counselors bringing information about electives and SHS students visiting during lunches to talk to students about the pathways offered.
- Additional dates will be provided as they are announced.

STEM Family Night – Tuesday, January 23rd at 6:30 p.m.

- Successful STEM night held last year.
- We would like to continue as a tradition at DRMS.

Trends in Education/County Information

- Dr. Hightower is retiring at the end of the school year.
    - School board has hired an outside company to help narrow the pool/review candidates.
    - Final decision belongs to the School Board
- New math standards= math teachers working through adjusted standards.
- Cognia STEM certification was received last year.
    - Continuing to focus on student engagement and authentic lessons along with project-based learning.
- Highest growth in ELA and Math in the county
    - #1 in growth – the growth model is based on like/similar students across the state.
    - 1 or 2 in achievement (how kids score on Milestones) – like/similar students aren't compared.

Other:

- Assistant Principals continue to work through discipline issues.
- Higher than normal absences for students and teachers due to illness (virus/flu/COVID).
- Please share community/parent concerns/questions with Ms. Weinbaum.

Agenda Ideas for Next Meeting

February: Course placements, courses for next year