

News from around the district at MSD114

- It has been a great beginning to the new school year after a long and busy summer. The summer gave all of us time to clean and refresh all of the buildings, making them look new again, continue maintenance on the grounds, reseal and restripe the track at the junior high, reseal the junior high parking lot, install a new wireless network at all locations in the district, and allow the administrative team the time to establish our goals for this upcoming year.
- The 4 goals that the administrative team will be focused on this coming year are; *Becoming One, Literacy, Using Data to make decisions, and Professional Development for Staff*. It is our goal in everything we do, to work together as “One” and to place the goals of our district and the students ahead of all personal and all building goals. We truly want to continue to improve what is already a great district. In doing so, another one of our goals is to make Literacy of focus and work with staff to include literacy instruction in all subjects across the curriculum and grades. I am looking forward to a very exciting year as I work with all the staff on all of these goals.
- Parent Information Night was held at Wilson Creek on September 1st. Teachers presented grade level and classroom expectations, explanations of routines, and curriculum to parents of their students. Parent turn out was good and parents can now sign up for Parent/Teacher Conferences through our school website and SignUpGenius.com.
- The 3rd grade meet and greet was well attended. Thank you to staff for taking their personal time to meet and greet their new students. 3rd graders also were able to drop off school supplies.
- The 5th grade music program is scheduled for Sept 24th at 7pm at Anna McDonald.
- The Junior High Locker Move-in and New Student Orientation was well attended and very successful. Special thanks to our student council member that assisted us with both functions. All students have the opportunity to move in their supplies before the year began. Orientation Night offers an overview of junior high school life and what to expect as a parent. The student helpers were absolutely amazing and without their help, would have been very challenging to run.
- The Junior High *Back-to-School Night* event occurred on Tuesday, August 25 and was one of our highest attended in years. The night began with grade-level parent meetings, followed by an abbreviated students schedule. Informations booths hosted by the 4H club, PTO, Manhattan Library, and Student Council were on hand to give the families information.
- The 6-8 grade Marching Band performed pre-game with the LWWHS Warrior Marching Band for the first time in history on Friday, August 28 at LWWHS. The student were also able to play cheers in the stands with the HS Band. Between the MJHS, Liberty JHS and LWW Band students, there were 150 band students on the field! All the MJHS band students are now

- looking forward to attending LWW in the future and become a Marching Warrior! A great time was had by everyone!
- The 2015-16 school year began with 1389 students. This represents an increase of 22 students from the start of last year. Manhattan and Frankfort were the only LW feeder district to show an increase in student enrollment from the previous year. Frankfort increased by 29 students after a slight dip in enrollment the previous year. Overall, the LW feeder districts have decreased in enrollment by almost 1350 students combined, over the last six-year period. In the same time period, Manhattan has a net gain of 84 students.
 - I want to personally thank the Police Department of the Village of Manhattan, for directing traffic in the mornings during student drop-off. It continues to be a tremendous help and has made the process very efficient as well as much safer for everyone.
 - In conjunction with the Village, the school district wishes to remind everyone to drive much slower in school zones, especially between 7:30am-9:00am and again between 2:30pm-4:00pm. These are the times that our students and buses are arriving or departing school. Please watch for stopped school buses and as a reminder, Please do not use your cell phones for Talking or Texting around School Zones. Thank You.
 - *Lastly, I want to remind our parents that the Online Registration is open and available. If there are any questions or concerns, then please contact Michele Zmigrodski at Wilson Creek Elementary.*

*Thank you,
Rusty Ragon*