

TO: Linda Taylor  
FR: Malcolm Fuller  
RE: New Directions for Student and Learning Supports

St. Mary's Middle School CATS (Choose Wisely, Act Responsibly, Take Ownership, and Show Respect) are moving forward with unified comprehensive supports this year and staying the course started several years ago. The leadership at St. Marys Middle School has always been passionate about improving academics by creating support for teachers and students. Several schools in our district have been encouraged to adopt the PBIS framework as we move toward a more positive teaching and learning school climate.

At St. Mary's Middle School, learning support decisions flow through our PBIS team. We developed a simple attendance recognition program during second semester of last school year called "Beat the 7:30 bell for homeroom" whereby group recognition is provided every time 100% attendance is achieved. We provide each student with a Big CATS ticket (SMMS created token economy) redeemable for various items. Last year we held a school-wide core values pep rally where the school principal and assistant principals spoke briefly to the student body and faculty concerning our school's CATS core values. Approximately 250 students received silicon bracelets engraved "SMMS Big CATS" to be worn at school throughout the year and beyond.

We are continuing our school-wide competition whereby each grade level competes for "peace days" that are obtained when every student in the grade level avoids an Office Discipline Referral (ODR) the entire day. If one student on the grade level receives an ODR, the grade level will forfeit a peace day count. Last year 6th grade obtained 71 peace days, 7th grade obtained 70 and 8th grade received 61 peace days. School-wide we accumulated 202 peace days for the year. Our students seem to be inspired, motivated and challenged by our school-wide competition initiative.

Last year we held 3 grade level "peace days" celebrations where entire grade levels took pride in leaving the classroom to enjoy free ice-cream and planned festivities for being winners. Our school-wide goal for this year is to improve on last year's peace days total by 5% to at least 212 total FY14 peace days. (I would love to send you our detailed action plan if requested).

For the rest of this year we plan to continue the following:

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- Monthly PBIS team meetings
- "Peace days" competition and periodic grade level "Celebration/Recognition" at 20,45 and 65 days for the winning grade level
- Provide tickets to each student every time 100% homeroom attendance is achieved
- Establish and formalize a school-wide PBIS support continuum to refine and make into policy
- Increase the number of businesses that partner with SMMS and generously donate items to our PBIS recognition component. ( Currently **IHop, Denny's and Domino's** have contributed items )
- Allow students with Big Cat tickets to: enter random drawings for various prizes during lunch, shoot hoops in the gym to win free ice-cream or SMMS Big Cats bracelet, leave cafeteria early for extended social time, receive candy after eating lunch ... ( PBIS team will continue to entertain student suggestions on ways tickets can be redeemed)
- Hold teachers and students accountable to school developed common items that are posted in every classroom 1) SMMS Classroom discipline flow charts. 2) SMMS Discipline Referral Levels 3) SMMS Classroom Protocol

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