

## Mr. McClure's Weekly Blog

Week of: October 5 - October 9

Week 9

### “The Principal’s Post”

In a conversation with Ms. Williams, SMS art teacher, this week, she excitedly relayed to me that we had a piece of student art work be chosen to be displayed from Nov. 5th to Nov. 7th at the Indiana Convention Center! The National Middle School Association’s annual national conference is being held at the Convention Center on these dates, and this SMS student’s work will be among the exhibits and displays.

### **Congratulations Jenna King for being selected for this distinction!**

And, if that wasn’t enough “good news” from the art department, the Goodwill Industries shop here in Seymour is also displaying, in its store windows, other SMS students’ art work. Their marquee reads, "Come see our Middle School Art display." Excellent work, SMS art students!

### **PARENTS that CARE and SHARE**

I am pleased to announce a new initiative at SMS this year. On October 8<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria of Seymour Middle School 7/8 building, we will begin a conversation regarding our children’s ever changing behavior and how we as parents can best navigate these waters of childhood adolescence. All middle school parents, grades 6-8, are invited to attend.

Dr. Jill Christopher will be on hand from 5:30-6:30 that evening to speak to interested parents on the topic of, “Understanding Your Adolescent.” Child care and refreshments will be provided for the event.

We want you to feel free to bring the entire family to join in on the conversation. We believe that your participation will be both informative and valuable. Simply knowing that “you are not alone” in your efforts to guide and shape your middle school student to rewarding ends may be reassuring.

It is our hope, with your participation, that SMS PCS meetings will become a regular avenue in which to dialogue about the many issues our children face . . . and that we face as parents raising adolescent children . . . in our information saturated age. We hope that you will choose to be part of our first meeting. (My special thanks to Mr. Royer for his initiative in

coordinating this effort and to ENCORE teacher Amanda Miller for volunteering to provide childcare that evening.)

THE 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE CENTER . . . RECYCLES  
**Submitted by: Mrs. Brooks**

The Super Stars have been working on a community service project this week. The students divided into groups of six and were presented with the challenge of doing something small that would help to protect the environment. Many of the groups began looking for ways to get more people recycling, and one group went as far as to order the plastic, metal and glass recycling for the 6GC. One student called the DPW himself and made all of the arrangements!

Other groups are trying to find ways for the cafeteria here to be more environmentally friendly. One group was told that we use disposable plates and silverware because there is not enough money to buy the dishwasher that is needed to handle the load that we would produce. This group is currently pursuing ways to raise the needed money.

Another group went online and mapped out a bike route for the city. They wrote a letter to the mayor asking him to consider this route and to encourage the citizens of Seymour to find alternate methods of transportation.

All of the groups made posters to hang around the school to encourage their classmates to be conscience of their impact on the environment.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES - Redux

We would like to thank those of you who were able to visit us this past week during our Parent/Teacher conference day. It was good to see you at both of our middle school buildings.

For those of you not scheduled for a formal conference, we hope that you found the “open conference” format helpful in providing you an opportunity to quickly meet with your child’s teachers and schedule a conference (if that was your wish).

However, it doesn’t have to be parent/teacher conference day for us to talk regarding your child’s academic progress. We encourage you to please feel free to contact the school at any time.

THIS WEEK'S OWLSTANDING QUOTE:

“It’s what I think about that produces how I feel.”

THIS WEEK'S PROJECT WISDOM THEME:

“Diversity: Contagious Humanity”

Until next week,