

February 6, 2012

Good Morning!

We have two more weeks to go before we have February vacation! The year is going quite fast. The professional development day last week allowed teachers to discuss aligning the curriculum to the new standards and to discuss instruction. It was a very successful day!

We have a staff meeting this afternoon and we will be talking about students and how they learn and their learning styles. We will also have a demonstration of technology that can be used in the classroom and engages students.

This week all students will take a survey on literacy lab. We will collect the information and look at their opinions. Using that information and other data the Matrix Committee will decide on changes to lit lab for next year. In addition, teachers also will be surveyed and their results will be calculated.

Last week the seventh grade students were given a long composition to write. It is a practice for the upcoming MCAS exam. The MCAS in English language arts begins on March 20 and runs through April 2. We hope all students will be present and able to take the exam.

Remember that tomorrow, Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. we will have our monthly PTO meeting. Ms Greaney and Ms Walecka will be discussing the end of the year activities for the grade 8 students. If you have a student in grade 8 you will want to be present. We will also be discussing upcoming events such as the Staff vs Student Basketball game, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Activity Night and so much more. Please join us and participate in our PTO!

On February 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30 p.m. we will hold the annual grades 7 and 8 Activity Night. We will have a DJ in the cafeteria and an open gym. Water and goodies will be sold in the hallway. Admission is either \$5.00 or \$3.00 with a canned food for the food bank. Only Cameron Middle School students will be able to attend and they must have a signed permission slip. We are looking for some baked goods to sell! Any donations are appreciated. We also need some parents to help us from 6:30-8:30 on Feb 9 so please contact the main office if you are willing to volunteer your time.

In two weeks on Friday, February 17, we are so pleased to have our favorite visiting author, **Yoko Kawashima Watkins**, visit us at Cameron MS. She penned the book, [So far From the Bamboo Grove](#), which all grade 7 students have read. She will speak about her life and answer questions. A few lucky students will have tea with Ms. Watkins and anyone may purchase one of her books and have it autographed. We will have extra books here for sale from Barnes and Noble.

Hope you have a wonderful week!

Judith S. Kelly