HAWK REPORT: APRIL 2011

There is no better way to start off the month of April than Spring Break. I can honestly say that I broke all the rules that I have followed all school year. I ate things that I shouldn't have, bonded with my couch, did not look at anything related to school and I felt really good about doing so. I preach to the staff about balance and thought I better start doing a better job of that myself.

Sometime in May I will be embarrassing myself for a good cause as the students reached their goal of $5,000 for Doernbecher. I thought I was safe on Thursday night of Spirit Week as they had raised about $500 but there was a massive last day rally and they got the money required to turn me into a Rice Krispie Treat. Apparently there was one board member who was willing to add a little more at the end to make sure I was the Rice Krispie treat so on behalf of the kids (and not me), thank you Mrs.Chord.

The biggest academic news of this month is that we have forty five students signed up for Educational Leadership which is double from this year. We also have twenty teachers signed up which is also doubled. The first class of student tutors has done such a remarkable job that promoting the program was easy. We are very excited about the program next year and hope that this becomes part of the educational culture at both schools.

Track started this month and we had 90 students turn out. This is a good thing for me as it keeps students focused in class during spring time which is not always easy. I think the cooler weather has helped curtail 'spring fever' as well. There have been less discipline issues, public displays of affection and dress code issues due to the arctic conditions that we have endured.

We are preparing for the MSP in early May including our first adventure into on-line testing. If you were to ask me if I completely understood the process, I would have to say "Not Exactly." Lucky Dave Holmes is down here again to bail me out. I am sure it will all work out.

The early release day is focused on the accomplishments of this year and planning for 2011-12. Two questions I will ask the staff are:

1. What is one significant change that you have made in your classroom this year?
2. What was the impact of that change?

We will also be wrapping up our LCP work this year. Finally we will be addressing some staff initiatives such as changing Advisory and the bell schedule. I am hoping that this meeting will not only be a celebration of the good work this year but also set a path for future success.

Go Hawks,

David Cooke
Principal
La Center School