



February 20, 2009

Dear Middle School Parents,

I am once again amazed at how quickly the school year is progressing. February is almost over and we have passed the mid-point of the academic year. I recently spent some time reflecting on the school year and discussing how this year is progressing with many of my middle school colleagues.

One theme that seemed to come up again and again was the idea of “initiative”. During this school year, we’ve had many staff members and students take initiative and embark on projects that benefit our students and school community. Of all the examples that I could list to demonstrate the initiative in the middle school, probably the most dramatic example is this year’s Middle School Student Council.

Over the years the Middle School has had many different student council leaders that have accomplished a number of important things. The last couple of years our Middle School Student Council has had a powerful voice representing their classmates on a number of issues related to the student handbook. However, this year, the Middle School Student Council has demonstrated a great deal of initiative on numerous fronts improving the Middle School experience for their classmates and modeling positive student leadership. Please read the text below that explains much of what the Movie Middle School Student Council has been up to so far this year. Of course, our student council officers took the initiative to write this.

Students cheering, stickers posted in every wall and bathroom, people talking about the campaigns, that was how the Middle School elections began. For the first time in our school’s history, there were about six campaigns all willing to do their best to improve the school. The campaigning was extremely difficult; everyone had great ideas and advertising. But after all, the M&M’s won and were ready to make their move.

The first change that was made was putting a comment box in the Middle School office. With this, students give us their opinions, suggestions, and ideas of what they want for our school. We, after reading the comments, decide what to do and try to accomplish everything they ask for.

In fact, we’ve created a website especially for Middle School. There, we post all of the news, fun links and our goals for this year. We also displayed images of the student body and our classmates. In addition, the website contains the answers to every question that is placed in the comment box.

Next, student council had to make improvements for the Halloween parade. We sold Halloween chocolates and they were given to the recipients on the day before the parade. The money earned will be used in future projects. The prizes for the costume contest were noticeable

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improved. We organized a mural contest where kids had to draw a mural related to Halloween as well. The winner got a special prize.

Currently, we are supporting the ASFG Ecological Campaign. It focuses on recycling and placing the trash where it is supposed to go. We are helping to promote this movement around the school and we are working on more ideas to help improving our school and environment.

The M&M's are delighted to make the school a better place. We are showing leadership and school improvement and showing students that change can be made. The student council has accomplished many of its goals, and we are looking forward in continuing. It's awesome to help our school!



The M&M Student Council Officers

The M&M's have set a fantastic example of student leadership in Middle School that I know will positively impact the school for years to come. I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with and around such an energetic staff and group of students that constantly take initiative and to make ASFG and the Middle School a better place.

Saludos,

David Markman
ASFG Middle School Principal