**April 24, 2015**

**Some of the changes we have made over the past few years to help improve the schedule include creating individualized schedules for 7th & 8th grade students based on individual need, utilizing Encore to better meet the needs of diverse learners, and tighten the schedule by reducing it from nine periods to eight. The scheduling committee met Wednesday to discuss improvements for next year. This group consists of Emily Turner, Stacy Starman, Nicole Clark, Joan Melissant, Courtney Thatcher, Julie Wettstein, and Becky Barton. Some of the things we agreed on include:**

* **We do not seek perfection—only improvement. There is no perfect schedule and it will be ever-changing. Not everyone is going to be in 100% agreement.**
* **Certain things will likely always be up for discussion such as our approach to Encore, incorporating fine arts, common planning time, over-crowded PE classes, and study hall.**
* **The scheduling focus will remain on reading, writing, and math. If students are unable to read effectively, they will struggle in all subject areas. PARCC assesses reading and math.**
* **Everything we do at Parkview continues to be student focused and results driven with an emphases on keeping students actively engaged in meaningful learning.**

**Everyone’s input is important and I appreciate all the feedback I have received on scheduling suggestions for 2015-2016. The scheduling committee will review the final schedule on May 20th**

**Kudos & FYI**

**I previously failed to mention that Administrative Professional’s Day was this week. Thanks to Amber and Diana for everything they do and for making sure Parkview runs smoothly.**

**One of the best parts about being a principal is visiting classrooms and seeing all the examples of engaged student learning. I visited LaSalle Wednesday and observed lots of awesome activities.**

**For the second consecutive year, our Scholastic Bowl Team is ranked first in their regional. Congratulations and good luck to Mrs. Sponholz and Ms. Starman as the team competes at Washington Middle next Wednesday at 4:30 vs. Beverly Manor.**

**Also next Wednesday, the PACE group is seeking volunteers to help at Pizza Ranch from 5:00 to 8:00. We are fortunate to have such an awesome and dedicated group of volunteers.**

**Students in Mrs. Barton’s and Mr. Nettles PE classes loved presenting their own original dance routines. I had lots of students asking me to come and watch them perform.**

**As part of a STEM project, Ms. Beal’s students created paper airplanes. They studied weight distribution and wind distribution to determine which would fly the farthest.**

**We concluded PARCC testing on March 27th and we begin it again April 27th. The loss of instructional time is frustrating and I appreciate you remaining positive throughout this process.**

**The hype has already started for the circus performance on May 12. This is directed by Mr. Kluesner and choreographed by Ms. Thatcher. It’s an awesome show you don’t want to miss.**

**“If you don’t like where you are, change it. You’re not a tree.” --Jim Rohn**

**Time is flying by as we only have 22 school days until 8th grade promotion. Happy weekend! –Brad**

***Student Focused—Results DRIVEN!***

***The PAST is THERE.***

***The FUTURE is HERE!***

**Monday, April 27: PARCC End of Year Assessment begins**

**Monday, April 27: Warrior Way Lesson—“The Warrior Way and Your Life Choices.”**

**Tuesday, April 28: BOE Meeting @ LaSalle—6:00**

**Wednesday, April 29: Mid-terms go home**

**Wednesday, April 29: Full Teacher’s Meeting 2:45-3:15 (WGTDD Chapter 15 Paul Nettles, “Great teachers continually ask themselves who is most comfortable and who is least comfortable with each decision they make.” WGTDD Chapter 16 Julie Wettstein, “Great teachers have empathy for students and clarity on how others see them.”)**

**Wednesday, April 29: PACE fundraiser night at Pizza Ranch in Morton from 5:00 to 8:00**

**Friday, May 1: 8:05—tornado drill, 1st & 2nd hour 5th & 6th yearbook signing, 7th & 8th hour 7th & 8th grade yearbook signing. 11:00 dismissal**

**Friday, May 1: SIP Day—Lunch on your own. Guest speaker Jody Bouris on Student Learning Objectives. Jeff Kleusner on incorporating the New Illinois Learning Science Standards. Courtney Thatcher, Josh Grys, Carrie Foster on co-teaching. Amanda May on MTSS.**

**Monday, May 4: Happy Educator Appreciation Week!**

**Monday, May 4: “May the fourth be with you”**

**Wednesday, May 6: Student Council Staff Luncheon—Hamburgers & Hot Dogs**

**Wednesday, May 6: Grade level team meetings**

**Tuesday, May 12: Drama-Circus Performance @ 6:00**

**Wednesday, May 13: Full teacher’s collaboration meeting from 2:45 to 3:45 (WGTDD Chapter 17 Stephanie Boyle.”)**

**Friday, May 15: 8th Grade Trip to Six Flags**

**Tuesday, May 19: BOE Meeting @ 6:00**

**Wednesday, May 20: Academic Awards @ 6:00**

**Thursday, May 21: Accelerated Reader Reward Field Trip to Planet X from 9:00 to 11:00**

**Thursday, May 21: Academic Awards @ 6:00**

**Friday, May 22: End of the 4th Grading Period—1:35 dismissal**

**Monday, May 25: Memorial Day—no school**

**Tuesday, May 26th: Spring Band Concert @ 6:00**

**Wednesday, May 27th: 8th grade promotion ceremony at East Peoria High School @ 6:30**

**Friday, May 29th: Teacher’s Institute. Luncheon at the China Village Buffet @ 12:00**

**Monday, June 1: Last day of school! Fun Day!**

**Tuesday, June 2: Parkview Somer-sault program begins**

**Monday, August 17: Teacher’s Institute Day**

**Wednesday, August 19: Awesome-ness begins**