**January 16, 2015**

**Each year students attend school for 174 days. Today marks the 89th day of school putting us over the half-way point. In conjunction with the New Year, with the help of Paul Nettles, Becky Barton, and Emily Turner, we spent time reviewing the Warrior Way with Parkview students. The purpose of this was to reinforce the importance of being responsible, respectful and safe and focused on encouraging students to have a great 2nd half. For my part I emphasized:**

* **Your work at Parkview is important: the teachers at Parkview make an effort to ensure that the work you receive is meaningful and beneficial. That’s why you should do your best.**
* **When you make your best effort you will be successful: success is not always easy and it comes with hard work and dedication. When you make the effort, you will succeed.**
* **We will not give up on you: the staff at Parkview is here to ensure that you are successful not only this year, but also next year, into high school, and beyond. We are always proud of the successes of Parkview students.**

**It has been a great first half and I am looking forward to the start of 2015 being even better. I am fortunate to be able to work with such a terrific group of young people with bright futures ahead of them. Not to mention being able to work with such a caring and dedicated Parkview staff.**

**Kudos & FYI**

**The teachers have done a great job reviewing the chapters of Todd Whitaker’s book, *What Great Teacher’s Do Differently.* I liked what Becky Barton had to say about putting students first and remembering what a difference we can make in their lives. With this, she talked about a student who had struggled at Parkview, but was now doing well. He came back to visit because he appreciated what all of his teachers had done for him. One difficult aspect of teaching is that we typically don’t immediately see the difference we make in the lives of young people.**

**Wednesday we will conduct an all-day Instructional Practices Inventory walk through at Parkview. We are averaging a 3.8 on the IPI scale and we always want to increase the number of higher order learning activities we incorporate into our lessons. Please feel free to join in with this process.**

**Thanks to Nicole Clark as she has again volunteered to organize the Parkview Spelling Bee. Round #1 begins next Friday, January 23 with round #2 taking place the following Friday.**

**With the New Year, many of you took this as an opportunity to talk to students about goal setting and making resolutions. Student’s in Mrs. Ritchie’s, Ms. Thatcher’s, and Mrs. Grys class completed goal banners stating what they want to accomplish in 2015.**

**Students in Ms. Beal’s class researched constellations and will create their own constellations.**

**Thanks for taking time on Tuesday to review the *Warrior Way* lesson that is titled, “Respect 101.”**

**“Focus on what you have and you will never have enough. Be thankful for what you do have and you will end up having even more.” --Jeff Zoul**

**Having earned two degrees from Illinois State University, I was proud to root for Redbird Football last Saturday as they played in the FCS championship game. Thanks for a great first half of the school you and I hope you have an awesome three day weekend. --Brad**

***Student Focused—Results DRIVEN!***

***The PAST is THERE.***

***The FUTURE is HERE!***

**Upcoming Events**

**Monday, January 19: No School! Martin Luther King Day**

**Tuesday, January 20: VB home vs. Midwest Central @ 5:00 (8th grade plays first)**

**Wednesday, January 21: Josten’s meets with 8th grade @ 12:50**

**Wednesday, January 21: Full teacher’s meeting 2:45-3:15 Amanda May with BESST Web, WGTDD Chapter 9 with Emily Turner, “Great teachers create a positive atmosphere in their classrooms and schools. They treat every person with respect. In particular, they understand the power of praise.”**

**Thursday, January 22: 7th & 8th BBB Home vs. Dunlap @ 5:00**

**Friday, January 23: Spelling Bee Round #1**

**Friday, January 23: PACE candy bar fundraiser kick-off**

**Saturday, January 24: 5th & 6th GBB home vs. Dunlap @ 11:00**

**Tuesday, January 27: BOE Meeting @ 6:00**

**Wednesday, January 28: Grade Level Team Meetings from 2:45-3:15 (PARCC testing schedule, Field Trip discussion, student/procedural successes and concerns)**

**Wednesday, January 28: 5th & 6th GBB Home vs. East Peoria @ 5:00**

**Thursday, January 29: Volleyball home vs. Pekin Edison @ 5:00**

**Friday, January 30: Spelling Bee Round #2**

**Monday, February 2: Volleyball Home vs. Broadmoor @ 5:00**

**Wednesday, February 4: Teacher Collaboration Meeting 2:45-3:45: *What Great Teacher’s Do Differently* ch. 10 Tammy Conway “Great teachers consistently filter out the negatives that don’t matter and share a positive attitude.**

**Thursday, February 5: 5th & 6th BBB Home vs. Deer Creek @ 5:00**

**Tuesday, February 10: 5th & 6th BBB Home vs. Dunlap @ 5:00**

**Tuesday, February 10: Candy bar fundraiser ends**

**Wednesday, February 11: Mid Term #3 Ends**

**Monday, February 16: President’s Day—no school**

**Friday, February 20: PACE Chili Supper 5:00-8:00**

**Saturday, February 21: Volleyball County Tournament at Parkview—all day**

**Monday March 2: PARCC Performance Based Assessment begins**

**Friday, March 13: School Improvement Day—11:00 dismissal. End of the 3rd grading period**

**Friday, March 20: Report Cards go home**

**Friday, March 27: Last day before spring break**

**Tuesday, April 7: School resumes**

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

**Thursday, May 21st: 8th grade promotion ceremony at East Peoria High School @ 6:30**

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

**Thursday, May 28th: Institute day—no school**

**Friday, May 29th: Last day of school!**