**October 10, 2014**

**While I love and appreciate new technology, I am often reluctant to embrace it. For example, I initially resisted getting a Smartphone. However, in terms of new technology, ultimately resistance is futile. Three years ago, Jen convinced me to get an iPhone since she is a huge fan of iBooks and iTunes. While I still prefer paperbacks and CD’s to these formats, I loved this device and never lamented the loss of my flip-phone. Last week I upgraded to an iPhone 6 which is just awesome. Internet, movies, games, and with so many apps, this phone does more than my laptop computer and faster. I won’t go anywhere without this device and soon I won’t even have to carry a wallet.**

**In terms of education, everyone likes to make the comparison of, “When I was in school . . .” At this point, it’s not a fair comparison since no generation has grown up with so many social media marvels that students have today. When I was growing up Atari was big, I had a rotary phone, a manual typewriter, and I relied on the newspaper for baseball scores. The Smartphone does all these things better and faster. Most Parkview students have access to this Smart technology and they absolutely love it. Kids with Smartphones are continuously engaged and interacting with them. This technology forces us to change the way that we teach kids. As educators, we are pioneers in the sense that we are teaching the first generation of students born in an age of complete Internet and technology immersion. We can lament about “the way things were” but technology will continue to grow exponentially and there is no going back.**

**Kudos & FYI**

**Kathy Sponholz’s students worked on a “CSI unit” in which they solved a mystery. They completed several math problems in order to receive clues. Then they had to use critical thinking and inferencing skills in order to determine “who done it.”**

**We are very fortunate to have Charles Nungester working with us. He is always willing to go “above and beyond” and he is incredibly valuable. Thanks for all you do Charles.**

**Ms. Beal’s students practiced paragraph writing through the OREO method. OREO is an acronym for Opinion, Reason, Evidence/Example, and Opinion restated.**

**Congratulations to Coach Cole, Coach Thompson, and the 8th grade girls’ basketball team who won the Pleasant Valley Tournament championship. The team’s current record is 9 wins and 2 losses.**

**The PACE group made $416 at Pizza Ranch on Wednesday. Thanks to Jeff Bradford, Julie Wettstein, Greg Liske, Kathy Sponholz, and Paul Nettles for participating in this event.**

**Next week’s *Warrior Way* lesson is titled, “Don’t Settle for Less, Do Your Best.” Students helped plan the *Warrior Way* celebration on October 31st that will feature a costume contest and have a super hero theme. Thanks to Paul Nettles and the *Warrior Way* team for organizing this.**

**The current leader for the Accelerated Reader contest is 5-3/5-4/8-S with 303.4 points.**

**“If you want to lose your students quickly, brag about yourself. If you want to build relationships with your students, brag about them.” --Todd Whitaker**

**Winning is not easy, so I am enjoying and appreciating that the St. Louis Cardinals have made it to their 4th straight NLCS. Go Cardinals and happy Columbus Day weekend! --Brad**

***Student Focused—Results DRIVEN!***

***The PAST is THERE.***

***The FUTURE is HERE!***

**Upcoming Events**

**Monday, October 13: Columbus Day—no school**

**Tuesday, October 14: SB7 & PERA Training 3:30-5:30 at LaSalle**

**Wednesday, October 15: Full teacher’s meeting 2:45-3:15 Stacy Starman Chapter 5 WGTDD “Great teachers have high expectations for students but have even higher expectations for themselves.”**

**Wednesday, October 15: GBB home vs. Mossville @ 5:00**

**Thursday, October 16: GBB Home vs. Rankin @ 5:00**

**Thursday, October 16: PACE Meeting @ LaSalle 6:00**

**Friday, October 17: 1st grading period ends—1:35 dismissal**

**Monday, October 20: Boys Basketball Tryouts 2:45-4:15**

**Tuesday, October 21: Picture re-takes**

**Thursday, October 23: No School--Parent Teacher Conferences 2:00-8:00**

**Friday, October 24: No School—Parent Teacher Conferences 8:00-1:00**

**Tuesday, October 28: GBB home vs. Bartonville Grade @ 5:00**

**Friday, October 31: Happy Halloween! Halloween Warrior Way celebration TBA**

**Monday, November 3: GBB Home vs. Bartonville Monroe @ 5:00**

**Tuesday, November 4: Teacher’s Institute—no school**

**Wednesday, November 5: Teacher Collaboration Meeting 2:45-3:45**

**Thursday, November 6: BBB Home vs. Pleasant Valley @ 5:00**

**Monday, November 10: BBB Home vs. Peoria Christian @ 5:00**

**Tuesday, November 11: Veteran’s Day—no school**

**Monday, November 17: BBB Home vs. Midwest Central @ 5:00**

**Tuesday, November 18: GBB home vs. Dunlap @ 5:00**

**Wednesday, November 19: Mid Term Ends**

**Thursday, November 20: PACE Meeting @ Parkview 6:00**

**Monday, November 24: BBB home vs. Mossville @ 5:00**

**Tuesday, November 25: All Day Reading Day/PACE Popcorn Day—mid-terms go home**

**Wednesday, November 26: Thanksgiving Break!**

**Monday March 9: PARCC Performance Based Assessment this week**

**Monday, March 16: PARCC Performance Based Assessment continues**

**Monday, April 27: PARCC End of Year Assessment this week**

**Monday, May 4: PARCC End of Year Assessment this week**