**October 24, 2014**

**This year we begin the process of implementing the new Student Growth Model which will be used for educator accountability. What’s great about this model is that it is based on actual student gains. In his weekly newsletter, Mr. Aldridge expressed frustration that based on our ISAT results, we were one of the districts chosen to begin this process a year early. This frustration stems from the fact that the ISBE initially informed us the selection would be based on 2012-2014 ISAT data. In August, the state changed the rules and inexplicably chose to ignore the gains made on the 2014 ISAT. Here are some differences between 2011 & 2014, based on students then and now:**

* **Current 7th grade students: in 2011, when this group was in 3rd grade, looking at their combined Math and Reading scores, only 19% met or exceeded standards. In 2014, as 6th graders, with the same group of students, 38% met or exceeded for a 19% gain.**
* **Current 8th grade students: in 2011, when they were in 4th grade, based on their combined Reading and Math scores, 44% met or exceeded state standards. In 2014, as 7th graders, with the same group of students, 66% met or exceeded. This is a 20% gain.**
* **Current 9th grade students: in 2011, when they were in 5th grade, based on their combined Reading and Math scores, 34% met or exceeded standards. In 2014, as 8th graders, with the same group of students, 47% met or exceeded. This is a 13% gain.**

**In the business world, gains of 19%, 20%, and 13% is considered impressive. Please note that with each of these groups, there was a steady increase each year. Data proves our students are making significant progress and that we did a far better job of educating kids in 2014 than in 2011. It is exasperating that the state of Illinois would ignore the most current data. Despite this flaw, I do expect the Student Growth Model to be a success. Thanks to Kathy Sponholz, Paul Nettles, Jeff Bradford, and Paul Nettles for volunteering to be part of the team working on this committee.**

**Kudos & FYI**

**The first day of conferences went great. Typically on these days, when parents want to talk to me it is to complain. The fact that almost nobody wanted to talk to me indicates how well things are going. Thanks to Terry Weaver for working extra hard prepping Parkview for conferences.**

**Kids love all the Halloween theme activities that are highly educational. Students in Mrs. Wettstein’s and Mr. Heubi’s room wrote “How to” essays before carving pumpkins. In Mrs. Clark’s class, her 8th graders are completing a unit on Edgar Allen Poe. In Mrs. Ritchie’s room, students completed a Halloween multi-genre writing assignment. Ms. Thatcher & Mr. Grys class created wanted signs in conjunction with reading “The Monkey’s Paw.” Ms. Beal’s class chose overly used words in writing and created R.I.P. signs including synonyms to replace these words.**

**Next week’s *Warrior Way* lesson is “Respect School Property.” Thanks to PACE and Student Council for sponsoring next Friday’s Warrior Way Halloween celebration. Next year we plan on having an after school Halloween party on the evening of Friday, October 30th.**

**For the all-day reading day, the current leader is the group of 5-3, 5-4, and 8-S with 571 AR points.**

**“Work Hard . . . Have Fun . . . Be Nice . . . Today!” --Jeff Zoul**

**Thanks to all of you for the boss’s day gifts and sentiments. It was truly unnecessary as it is my honor and privilege to serve as your principal and to work with such a dynamic and caring group of educators. The first quarter has been a success thanks to you. Happy weekend! -Brad**

***Student Focused—Results DRIVEN!***

***The PAST is THERE.***

***The FUTURE is HERE!***

**Red Ribbon Week Schedule**

**Monday, October 27—Spirit Day**

**Tuesday, October 28—Pajama Pant Day**

**Wednesday, October 29—Camo Day**

**Thursday, October 30—Hat Day**

**Friday, October 31—Super Hero Day**

**Upcoming Events**

**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**

**Friday, November 14: PACE Fall Festival @ LaSalle 5:00-8:00**

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

**Tuesday, November 18: BOE Meeting @ LaSalle—6:00**

**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, December 1: BBB Home vs. Chillicothe @ 5:00**

**Tuesday, December 2: Volleyball Tryouts 2:45-4:15**

**Wednesday, December 3: Teacher Collaboration Meeting 2:45-3:45**

**Wednesday, December 3: BBB Home vs. Bartonville Grade @ 5:00**

**Saturday, December 6: PACE Lunch with Santa @ LaSalle 11:00 to 1:00**

**Monday, December 8: Santa’s Secret Shop all week at Parkview**

**Monday, December 15: BBB Home vs. Tremont @ 5:00**

**Thursday, December 18: PACE Meeting @ LaSalle 6:00**

**Friday, December 19; 1:35 Dismissal—Warrior Way Celebration—Last day before break!**

**Monday, January 5: Back in session!**

**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**