**October 31, 2014**

**New educational initiatives can be frustrating since they typically have flaws. One example of this is NCLB which failed for a multitude of reasons. No Child Left Behind took an “all or nothing” approach to assessment. If our students “met,” even if it was by just one point, it was good. If they did not meet, by just a point, you failed. Secondly, NCLB did not take into account differences between wealthy districts with an abundance of resources compared to other districts. Not to mention the impossibly high NCLB expectations which ultimately led to its demise.**

**Despite NCLB’s faults, the program proved to be vastly beneficial and improve the way we teach kids. NCLB demanded that we have high expectations for every student. With the accountability tied to NCLB, the primary role of the principal changed from being a building manager to becoming the instructional leader. NCLB forced us to use data in a meaningful way to raise student achievement and to examine and improve the way we teach kids. In short, despite the all the negativity surrounded with NCLB, the ultimate outcome of this program was a success. While change can be difficult and even scary, keep the NCLB example in mind as we implement new educational initiatives and focus on the positives of what each will accomplish. In order to continue doing a great job educating kids, we must continuously strive to grow and improve.**

**Kudos & FYI**

**In order to be a PBIS recognized school, we are required to have celebrations and fun activities throughout the year that are designed to enhance the educational experience and to help make school fun. That’s the reasoning behind today’s *Warrior Way* “Super Hero” themed celebration. Mrs. Sponholz came up with the idea of the staff wearing shirts that say, “I am an Educator—What’s Your Superpower?” Mr. Nettles created today’s schedule and tracked students that earned the *Warrior Way* incentive booster. Thanks to Mrs. Barton and Ms. Callahan for acquiring the caramel and apples for the *Warrior Way* booster. Thanks to all of the homerooms who participated in the student council scarecrow contest. For the winners of this activity, Ms. Beal’s class placed 1st, Mrs. Clark’s class finished 2nd, and Ms. Thatcher’s class 3rd.**

**Thanks to the the Student Growth Team of Kathy Sponholz, Stephanie Boyle, Jeff Bradford, Paul Nettles, and Kathy Radovich for dedicating their time towards its implementation. Paul, Stephanie, and Kathy S. will present to the LaSalle teachers Monday and Parkview on Wednesday.**

**Ms. Conway is having success with her RESPECT program. When a student misbehaves, they write and discuss how they could have behaved better and students have “accountability buddies.”**

**As boys’ basketball season kicks off Monday, thanks to Jeff Bradford, Mario West, Courtney Thatcher and Sarah Beal for their dedication and spending so much time ensuring success.**

**Ms. Conway, Ms. Melissant & Mr. Sea’s classes lead the AR contest with 657.1 points.**

**“I started off working in the elementary where all the kids love you. Then I went to the middle school—one of the hardest jobs in K12 because the same children that loved you at the elementary level, hate everything when they get to middle school.” –Dr. Luis Cruz**

**Halloween is awesome. My home was built by a doctor 100 years ago. I’m not certain what medical procedures were conducted, but the doctor felt it necessary to build a house with bars on the basement windows. Tonight I’ll be watching for the paranormal. Happy Halloween! --Brad**

***Student Focused—Results DRIVEN!***

***The PAST is THERE.***

***The FUTURE is HERE!***

**Upcoming Events**

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

**Tuesday, November 4: Teacher’s Institute at East Peoria Central from 8:30 to 3:30. Lunch on your own. (Evaluations and student Growth)**

**Wednesday, November 5: Teacher Collaboration Meeting 2:45-3:45—Paul, Stephanie, and Kathy on Student Growth, Andy Sea on WGTDD chapter 6—“Great teachers have high expectations for students but have even higher expectations for themselves.” Math & ELA Scope and Sequence**

**Thursday, November 6: Rising Star Team from 2:45-3:30 (Emily, Paul, Nicole, Stephanie, Andy, Josh, Holly)—What are we doing and why are we doing it? Strengths and weaknesses for RTI, PBIS, walk throughs, social emotional learning, etc.**

**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**

**Wednesday, November 12: Full teacher’s meeting—Nicole Clark Ch. 7 of WGTDD “Great teachers know that they are the variable in the classroom. Good teachers consistently strive to improve, and they focus on something they can control; their own performance.”**

**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**