**December 19, 2014**

**Last Monday, along with Paul Nettles, Kathy Sponholz, Stephanie Boyle, and Jeff Bradford, I attended a conference at EP Central on the Student Learning Objective (SLO) process. The SLO is part of the Student Growth Model that shows evidence of student growth over a period of time. Staring next school year, teacher evaluations are required to include two types of student growth. In showing growth, the three types of assessments that educators may use are: 1) An assessment designed and scored outside of the district, such as the MAP test. 2) An assessment designed and scored by the district that is given by all teachers in a grade and subject area. An example of this would be a pre-test and a post-test within the curriculum, as long as it is not the same test. 3) As assessment aligned with the course curriculum such as a writing portfolio.**

**At a glance, the Student Growth Model appears extremely comprehensive to the point it seems overwhelming. However, when you simplify it, we are taking things we are already do in our classrooms and refine them to demonstrate student growth. The MAP test is a type 1 assessment that we will continue to use in demonstrating growth for reading and math. As a type 3 assessment, in 7th grade science, Mr. Kluesner can look at science fair research papers in 6th grade compared to their 7th grade papers. In PE, students already participate in the President’s physical fitness challenge which may be used as a type 1 assessment. While the ISBE has a way of making things seem overly-complicated, with this process they have been very clear that districts have the flexibility to make their own decisions based on certain guidelines. Test data indicates that Parkview students not only demonstrate growth, but consistently demonstrate above average growth. This student growth model is just another way of demonstrating our student’s success.**

**Kudos & FYI**

**It’s going to be fun today with the iPad give away, *Warrior Way* celebration, and PACE making popcorn. When we return from break, we will re-focus by reviewing *Warrior Way* procedures in being responsible, respectful, and safe. The 5th & 6th grade will review this during PE on Monday and the 7th & 8th grade during Tuesday PE. Mrs. Turner will review academic expectations, Mrs. Barton restroom procedures, Mr. Nettle’s gym procedures, and I’ll review lunch procedures.**

**Mr. Sea’s, Ms. Foster’s, and Mr. Liske’s classes competed in a math scavenger hunt. They had a competition in which they found and completed math problems posted throughout Parkview.**

**Studying gravity in 5th grade science, students built catapults and measured how far each launched.**

**Mrs. Wettstein, Ms. Beal, and Mr. Heubi’s students completed an “Elf For Hire” writing assignment in which they explained why they wanted to work for Santa. They also wrote persuasive essays on what they wanted for Christmas and then peers edited their work.**

**We have our very own Santa Claus at Creve Coeur School District 76. Bus driver George Pilkington has once again been busy every day since after Thanksgiving playing Santa Claus.**

**Since Ayla is 8 and Nora 4, it makes Christmas just awesome. Over break we are going to Kalahari’s indoor water park at Wisconsin Dells. On December 26th I’ll read Stephen King’s novel *Revival* and at some point during break I’ll get caught up on things at Parkview. I feel blessed to be able to work with such a terrific group of educators and I hope that each of you have a very happy holiday season with family and friends. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!! --Brad**

***Student Focused—Results DRIVEN!***

***The PAST is THERE.***

***The FUTURE is HERE!***

**Upcoming Events**

**Monday, January 5: Welcome back!**

**Wednesday, January 7: MAP Testing Begins**

**Wednesday, January 7: Collaboration Meeting 2:45-3:45 (WGTDD Chapter 8 Becky Barton, “Great teachers focus on students first, with a broad vision that keeps everything in perspective.”)**

**Friday, January 9: 1:35 Dismissal—end of the 2nd nine week grading period**

**Saturday, January 10: 5th & 6th GBB vs. Morton Travel @ 11:007th**

**Tuesday, January 13: 7th & 8th BBB home vs. Georgetown @ 5:00**

**Wednesday, January 14: Math/ELA/Warrior Way collaboration meeting 2:45-3:30**

**Wednesday, January 14: VB home vs. South Pekin @ 5:00**

**Thursday, January 15: 7th & 8th BBB home vs. Monroe @ 5:00**

**Friday, January 16: Report cards go home**

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

**Tuesday, January 20: VB home vs. Midwest Central @ 5:00**

**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: PACE candy bar fundraiser kick-off**

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

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

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

**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**

**Tuesday, May 26th: Institute day—no school**

**Wednesday, May 27th: Last day of school!**