**February 27, 2015**

**Using data effectively has significantly improved the way we teach kids. Prior to focusing on data, there was an emphasis on student grades which are too often a reflection of an individual’s organization, effort, and their ability to follow instructions. We have collected MAP data for 7 years which allows us to understand student differences while identifying individual strengths and weaknesses in reading and math. We know which students need extra help and which students need to be challenged further. When a new student comes to Parkview, it is incredibly helpful when they have taken the MAP test so we immediately know where to place them.**

**What PARCC will eventually accomplish is give us this meaning individual student data for not only students at Parkview and in Illinois, but throughout the country. Ideally, if a student moves from Alaska, we would immediately know their strengths and weakness. PARCC is fully aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards in ELA and Math and emphasizes academic rigor, critical thinking, and problem-solving. More importantly, PARCC will give us a true indicator of college and career readiness for all students. In short, PARCC will ultimately be a good thing.**

**While PARCC will ultimately be a good thing, there are immediate difficulties. Since it is new, it will take a few years to compile meaningful student data. The PARCC assessment emphasizes an increase of rigor, which means it is hard and can be stressful for students. Since, we still need MAP data while we become acclimated to PARCC, students must endure an over-abundance of assessment. Despite these challenges, PARCC is a much needed change for the better. Thanks for being flexible and maintaining a positive attitude throughout this assessment transition.**

**Kudos & FYI**

**The Design Team continues working towards implementing the Student Growth Model for next year. Kathy Sponholz, Jeff Bradford, Paul Nettles, and Stephanie Boyle will present at next Wednesday’s teacher’s meeting on designing Student Learning Objectives (SLO).**

**Thanks to everyone for making an effort to be here every single day. Whenever you are absent, the education of our students suffers. Currently, Mr. Liske and Mr. Nungester have perfect attendance. Mr. Sea’s streak was broken this week due to circumstances beyond his control.**

**Mr. Liske’s and Mrs. Melissant’s students created a STEM project in which they created edible cars. They measured their weight and the distance traveled by each. Then they plotted this on a line graph to analyze and discuss the variables involved.**

**Good luck to Mr. Kluesner & the Bridge Builders as they compete at Northwood’s Mall tomorrow.**

**Thanks to Julie Wettstein, Sarah Beal, Andy Sea, Jeff Kluesner, Jamie Simpson, and Emily Turner for volunteering at the PACE Chile Supper last Friday. The Parkview *Frozen* performers did an awesome job. This event earned over $3000 that will help benefit our students.**

**“The man who complains about the way the ball bounces is likely the one who dropped it.”**

 **--Lou Holtz**

**While it is not fun getting up at 4:30 each morning, coming to Parkview each day beats the heck out of working for a living. It is fun being able to work with Parkview students each day and I feel fortunate to be able to interact with such a dedicated and caring staff. Happy weekend! --Brad**

***Student Focused—Results DRIVEN!***

***The PAST is THERE.***

***The FUTURE is HERE!***

**Upcoming Events**

**Monday, March 2: WARRIOR WAY LESSON—Cyberbullying and being kind on-line**

**Monday March 2: PARCC 5th Grade Performance Based Assessment begins**

**Wednesday, March 4: Collaboration Meeting 2:45-3:45 (PARCC Assessment updates, Student Growth updates, *WGTDD* Kathy Sponholz Chapter 12: “Great teachers have the ability to ignore trivial disturbances and the ability to respond to inappropriate behavior without escalating the situation.”**

**Wednesday, March 4: Regional Board of Education meeting @ Parkview at 6:00**

**Monday, March 9: PARCC 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Assessment Begins**

**Tuesday, March 10: Grade level team meetings—(PARCC updates, students in danger of being retained, field trips, 8th grade awards, student/procedural positives/concerns)**

**Wednesday, March 11: Science Fair after School**

**Thursday, March 12: Rising Star Meeting from 2:45-3:30—(master schedule for next year)**

**Friday, March 13: ICC Band Contest @ 2:00**

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

**Tuesday, March 17: Scholastic Bowl Home vs. EP @ 3:30**

**Tuesday, March 17: BOE Meeting @ LaSalle 6:00**

**Wednesday, March 18: Full teacher’s meeting 2:45-3:15 *WGTDD* Carrie Foster Ch. 13, “Great teachers have a plan and purpose for everything they do. If plans don’t work out the way they had envisioned, they reflect on what they could have done differently and adjust accordingly.”**

**Thursday, March 19: PACE Meeting @ Parkview—6:00**

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

**Thursday, March 26: Student Council Class Parties—5th & 6th from 4:30 to 6:00, 7th & 8th from 6:30 to 8:00**

**Friday, March 27: Warrior Way celebration TBA. Last day before spring break & 1:35 dismissal**

**Saturday, March 28: PACE Breakfast with the Bunny @ Applebee’s 8:00-10:00 am**

**Tuesday, April 7: School resumes**

**Wednesday, April 8: Collaboration Meeting 2:45-3:45 (WGTDD Chapter 14 Jeff Bradford)**

**Thursday, April 9: Talent Show Auditions @ 2:45**

**Thursday, April 9: Sports Awards @ 6:00**

**Tuesday, April 14: Lifetouch Spring Pictures**

**Wednesday, April 15: Parkview Talent Show @ 6:00**

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

**Friday, May 1: SIP Day—11:00 dismissal**

**Friday, May 15: 8th Grade Trip to Six Flags**

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

**Friday, May 22: End of the 4th Grading Period—1:35 dismissal**

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

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

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