

Empowering students to pursue their dreams.

Important Dates

- 12/10 JH Wrest @ E-B
- 12/10 JH B BB @ H
- 12/10 JH G BB @ Monte
- 12/12 All-School Assembly -9:30
- 12/12 Internet Safety Presentation - MS
- 12/12 Rdg. Ldrshp Mtg.
- 12/13 MS Team Mtg.
- 12/13 3-6th Winter Concert @ 6:00
- 12/14 2nd Grade Gingerbread Houses
- 12/17 JH Wrest @ H
- 12/17 SIAC Mtg.
- 12/17 School Board Mtg

Birthdays

- 12/9 – Jennifer O'Halloran
- 12/25 – Jill Philby
- 12/26 – Joel Harthoorn

Focus Quote:

“Education is the foundation upon which we build our future.”

-Christine Gregoire



School Notes

Chapter 6 of Engage Every Family is a powerhouse in terms of ideas that are identifiable to schools and teachers. One of the key ideas from this chapter is the role of fear and trust in the relationship with families.

The relationship between a school and its families is very personal because both groups are highly invested in the shared success of students. In addition, parents had their own relationship with school when they were students themselves and their experiences play a role in their view of a school environment. Just as in any relationship, in order for it to work well, there has to be a sense of trust established between those involved. There are

* Sabrina – Thank you for being willing to videotape a science lesson and have it shown as part of the K-5 professional development. The discussion that took place about your lesson was powerful and I really appreciate what you shared about the benefits of reflecting on your teaching through the use of video. It was a

certain things we can do to build or diminish trust and the same is true for our families. Here are some examples of how we may be diminishing parents' trust in us:
*sharing incorrect or out-of-date information
*Lack of follow-through
*Practices or procedures that limit family involvement

Families can also make choices that damage the relationship such as:
*sporadic attendance of their children
*lack of response to communication
*lack of attendance to activities designed for parents and families

Although those choices or decisions can sometimes be frustrating, we owe it to our students

to continue to work towards building relationships with all families, just like we need them to continue to want to build a relationship with us when they feel frustrated with something we may have done to diminish trust. In any relationship, there are going to be bumps in the road, but we must be cognizant of the choices we are making to create a trusting environment that includes open communication. When we work together and problem-solve with one another, our students are much more likely to have success which is the goal we all share.

Have a great rest of your week!

- Teri

Appreciations

great example of how video can be an effective tool for self-growth and professional development.

*Abbie, Jill S., and Brenda – I appreciate your continued collaboration with Janelle Thompson to ensure our special students are receiving appropriate reading instruction.

*Michelle, Justine, Colleen, April, Nicole, Jennifer O. and Lisa F. – Thank you for your help in putting together our December K-8 newsletter. Your help with writing and editing the articles led to a wonderful newsletter for our parents and students!

