“College & Career Begins at Kendall”

Quote of the Week: "An invincible determination can accomplish almost anything and in this lies the great distinction between great men and little men."-- Thomas Fuller

Pic from our 12/2017 Super Hero Day!

Vision

If we want all students to be prepared for college and career, we need to plan out exactly what it will take to address all student needs. The State of CT Accountability Report offers us an annual review of the areas of school improvement that we need to focus on. Our goal is to move closer and closer to achieving the status of a School of Distinction.

Teaching & Learning

Attendance

- We had 283 students earn their perfect attendance bracelet for November, up 23 students since October. Every prize gets better and better! Below are other attendance reminders:
- An attendance message goes out each day. Parents - please call the school if your child is sick so that we can change the attendance to excused. Teachers - please take attendance by 10:00 am.
- Although we mark sick days as excused, the state monitors excused and unexcused absences. A student is considered truant if they are absent more than 4 days in one month and 10 days for the year. 18 absences for the year is considered chronically absent.

Technology

- Parents, if you do not have wifi at home, but you have a tablet for your child to use. We can schedule an appointment to download our reading app so that your student can still take advantage of the reading program myON. Please email matiasr@norwalkps.org if you want more information.
- Parent Conferences are a great time for parents to get clarity about how to use online programs. With the holidays approaching, it is essential that there are meaningful options at home. Shout-out to Mrs. Kruseski's Class who has the highest at home reading usage for myON.

Extended Day

1) The first week in January, the Carver Center will begin an exclusive Academic Middle School Transition Program for 5th grade students at Kendall. The program will run three days a week and it is free. Students will be invited to attend, registration forms need to be returned by 12/19.

2) Students in grades 3-4 will have the opportunity to attend our annual SBAC College & Career Program. The program will begin in February and run through April. Stay tuned!

Each week there will be a strategy of the week shared by Mrs. Asmani. Please commit to using the strategy or a different SIOP strategy to support your Tier One ELA or Math instruction.

Holiday Fun
1) We want to ensure that all of our families feel respected as we celebrate the holidays. Staff please be mindful of the diversity of our school as you plan activities and events. It is a great idea to have students share how they celebrate.

2) Celebrations should be tied as closely as possible to the curriculum and the schedule. Grade Five and Grade One did wonderful activities last year that were linked.

3) Please remember the district’s Wellness Policy around food.

4) **Holiday vacations are unexcused absences.**

**Community Engagement**

- Our next SGC (6:00pm) and PTA (7:00pm) meetings will be on **Wednesday** Dec. 12th (This is a change in day because of Conference Night). The PTA will have a new and improved agenda where everyone begins together and breaks into groups based on language needs. We want all of our families to feel valued. A light dinner will be provided.

- The SGC started a task force to design a Dream Plan for Kendall, which is our vision for the school if resources were not a barrier. **We will become a school of distinction!** Please email be if you are interested in creating a plan with this focus question in mind: **What would it take to close the achievement gap?**

- **On January 4th we will have an Open House for Grade Five Families.** Come have dinner, learn about what end of the year activities, and receive an orientation for our Extended Day Transition Program.

- Fridays are School Spirit Fridays! Everyone is encouraged to wear Cougar Gear or all blue! **Please purchase your Cougar Gear!**

**Safety & Security**

Thank you so much for your cooperation with drop-off and pick-up. If you have ideas or questions, please reach out to Mr. Daniello, our teacher rep on the district Safety Committee.

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**Staff Professional Development**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 3rd</td>
<td>Steering Committees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 10th</td>
<td>Becoming a School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 17th</td>
<td>Teaching Resolutions/Celebrations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 7th</td>
<td>No Faculty Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 14th</td>
<td>(Planning for student engagement) 90 min. meeting</td>
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**Shout-outs**

1) Mrs. Cruz for attending the Board of Education Meeting on Tuesday.

2) Mrs. Kubelle and Mrs. Blosio for getting started with purging important areas in the school. Our students deserve to learn in a clean and organized school.

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**Looking Ahead**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 10th-14th</td>
<td>Scholastic Book Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 13th</td>
<td>1:55 pm Dismissal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 13th</td>
<td>Conference Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 14th</td>
<td>Cookies and Canvas Night w Mrs. Hungaski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 24th-Jan. 1st</td>
<td>No School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 4th</td>
<td>Grade Five Open House</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 7th</td>
<td>No Faculty Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 10th</td>
<td>SGC (6:00), PTA (7:00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 30th</td>
<td>Movie Night</td>
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The School Store is OPEN, but students must be to school by 8:45 to participate!

December Fun Days: 17th (College Gear), 18th (Super Hero), 19th (Pajama Day), 20th (Hat/Crazy Hair), 21st (Festive/Ugly Sweater)

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