“College & Career Begins at Kendall”

Quote of the Week: "No student ever attains very eminent success by simply doing what is required of him: it is the amount and excellence of what is over and above the required that determines the greatness of ultimate distinction. --Charles Kendall Adams

Kendall Social Worker, Mr. Douge, at his graduation yesterday. Growth Mindset!

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 Wi-Fi 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.

Extended Day
1) We only have ten spaces left in the Carver Program!
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!

SIOP
Looking for a quick and easy SIOP strategy to review your vocabulary words?? Try SIOP Go Fish with your students!! I hope you enjoy trying to activity. Please contact Katina Asmani when you will be implementing the strategy to come and check it out or if you need support!
**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 **Thursday, Jan. 10th**. The PTA has 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!** Thank you for all of your feedback on the plan.

- **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. Many parents are parking in the handicap, fire, or drop off spaces. This is very dangerous. To Mr. Daniello, our teacher rep on the district Safety Committee.

**Looking Ahead**

| Dec. 17th | Socioemotional Curriculum, ReThink Ed |
| Jan. 7th | No Faculty Meeting |
| Jan. 14th | (Planning for student engagement) 90 min. meeting |

**Note:** Please check the Staff Calendar for info. About Data Team Meetings and District PD Dates

| Shout-outs | Looking Ahead |
| 1) Mr. Wellington for being such a reflective and focused Parent Co-chair of the SGC. | Dec. 19th | 3-5 PBIS Assembly (2:45) |
| 2) Mrs. Socci for always holding down the Book Fair! | Dec. 20th | k-2 PBIS Assembly (2:00) |
| 3) All of “Santa’s Helpers”. You know who you are! | Dec. 24th | Jan. 1st No School |
| 4) Mrs. Hungaski for Cookies & Canvas | Jan. 4th | Grade Five Open House |
| | Jan. 10th | SGC (6:00), PTA (7:00) |
| | Jan. 30th | Movie Night |

**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)

**December 21st:** Staff Breakfast at 8:00 am and Student Sing Along at 2:30 pm.

Kendallnps  kes.norwalkps.org  collegeandcareerratkendall