Quote of the Week: “Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” —Barack Obama

Take one last look at our STEM Trophy, which was sent back to Central Office for the 2019 champions. Last year, Dr. Beckley’s Class took the trophy and the Spirit of STEM Award was created for grade two. We will create every opportunity for our students to rise this year, despite challenge, and bring the trophy back home! STEM materials are organized in room 9. Email me if there are items still missing. Share your receipts this week where you have made purchases.

Vision
We are a diverse community of learners and it is important that we celebrate the history that we all share. Build in time this month to incorporate Black History into your instructional plan. Below is a link to a website that offers ideas. http://www.nea.org/tools/lessons/bhm-curriculum-resources-gradesK-5.html

Teaching & Learning

Attendance
- There were 235 perfect attendance students for January! This is a huge decline from previous months, but we know that there have been legitimate illnesses. Students should not come to school if they are sick, but vacations should occur when there is no school. February Perfect Attendance Stars will get a coupon to the school store!!!!!!
- 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.
  - Holiday vacations are unexcused absences.

Socioemotional Wellness
- The team who went to Restorative Practices Training had great takeaways. The concept of Restorative/Thinking Circles is one area that we will receive training on as a school community.
- PBIS Reset- March 5th-March 8th will be PBIS Reset Week. Each day the school community will focus on re-teaching expectations throughout the building. More info. to come from the PBIS Steering Committee

Extended Day
1) Students in grades 3-4 will have the opportunity to attend our annual SBAC College & Career Program. The program will begin on March 18th. Applications will go out this week. Stay tuned!
2) Grade two students who need additional support acquiring their reading and math goals will have the opportunity to receive additional tutoring after school. There are limited spaces. Invitations will go out from Grade Two Teachers.
3) We will have the Springboard Summer Program again this summer. The official dates are July 8th- August 9th, Mon.-Fri (8-1). Students who are required, are mandated to attend, but just as last year, we will have seats to invite more students. Plan your vacation around the identified dates.
Community Engagement

- **Climate Survey** - Teachers will have the chance to take the Climate Survey on March 11th. Students will take the survey during the week of March 18th. *Parents- last year your participation was only approximately 25%. Help us have the highest growth in the district. We need to hear your perspective! The class with the highest parent participation will win a prize.* Ms. Franco is taking appointments to help parents who need a computer and support completing the form. The directions are as follows: STEP 1: [https://kes.norwalkps.org/](https://kes.norwalkps.org/), STEP 2: Click on the tab “PARENTS”

- Our next SGC (6:00pm) and PTA (7:00pm) meetings will be on **this Thursday, February 21st**. 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.** There was great attendance last month and important decisions were made. The SGC will focus on the mid-year School Improvement outcomes.

- 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. In the mornings, please do not leave your children early-especially in the cold weather. The doors do not open until 8:35 am so that teachers have the chance to prepare for the day. Students are not supervised before that time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Professional Development</th>
<th>Shout-outs</th>
<th>Looking Ahead</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 25th- Trauma- Informed</td>
<td>1) Mrs. Asmani for advocating for more planning time for Third Grade Teachers</td>
<td>Feb. 20th- K-2 January Perfect Attendance Breakfast</td>
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<td>March 4th- PBIS Reset/Parent Empowerment Conferences</td>
<td>2) Angelica Llanos for all of her volunteer service this year!</td>
<td>Feb. 21st- 3-5 January Perfect Attendance Breakfast</td>
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<td>March 11th- Staff Survey</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb. 21st- PTA/SGC</td>
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<td>March 25th- Go Math</td>
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<td>Feb. 27th- STEM Expo</td>
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<td>Note: Please check the Staff Calendar for info. About Data Team Meetings and District PD Dates</td>
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<td>Classroom Winners Announced</td>
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<td>March 7th- Conferences (1:55 Dismissal)</td>
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<td>March 14th- Conference Night (1:55 Dismissal)</td>
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**The School Store is OPEN, but students must be to school by 8:45 to participate!** Coming soon, students can earn coupons to the store by living by the “Cougar Code”!

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kes.norwalkps.org  
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