Quote of the Week: “We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends.” --Mary McLeod Bethune, Educator

Congratulations to everyone! We were named a State of Connecticut School of Distinction for our growth in ELA for our high needs students. We also moved up to a Level 2 School as defined by the State of Connecticut’s Accountability Report. We will continue to focus on each student so that we achieve distinction across the board and move to a Level One School.

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
● 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
● 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
● We are focusing on Respect this week with the rethink Ed Curriculum. We are spreading kindness k-2 and working on social clues 3-5.

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 22%. 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/], **STEP 2:** Click on the tab “PARENTS”

- 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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 4th- PBIS Reset/Parent Empowerment Conferences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11th- Staff Survey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 25th- Go Math</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Please check the Staff Calendar for info. About Data Team Meetings and District PD Dates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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”!

Kendallnpss kes.norwalkps.org collegeandcareeratkendall