

December, 2016

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I hope all of our families had an enjoyable Thanksgiving! I want to thank everyone that attended our annual Brown Bag Auction and the 16 Handles Principal's Fro-Yo Contest. I had the opportunity to make my own frozen yogurt sundae from different soft serve flavors (peanut butter and Chocolate) and then added toppings mini peanut butter cups, pieces of waffle cone, and chocolate covered pretzels. The cups of frozen yogurt were taste-tested by five judges who scored them on taste, appearance and creativity.

Our creation "The Eagle's Nest" won first place and our PTO was awarded \$200 by 16 Handles. In addition to the award prizes, a portion of all the sales from the evening were donated evenly among the schools. Thank you to 16 Handles for hosting this fundraiser and for our school community for supporting it.

On November 10th, we celebrated Veteran's Day by hosting our monthly character education assembly and recognizing many veterans from our local community and relatives to students in our school. It was an incredible event that featured our fourth grade students introducing the trait of courage and thanking the veterans for their service and our country's freedoms.

I want to thank everyone that participated in our first before school breakfast. It was a very successful event! We had over two hundred people enjoying breakfast with their DPS friends. Our kitchen staff and monitors did an exceptional job. They created such a warm atmosphere to kick off the holiday season.

During the month of December, our school will place extra emphasis on the character trait of caring and compassion. DPS is participating in a toy drive that will benefit the Nassau Resource Center. I am happy to report that we once again provided Equinox with over three hundred cans of green beans for their Thanksgiving Day meals in Albany. Thank you to all that participated. Our school community support for all of our service based initiatives is greatly appreciated.

As we head into the winter months, I wanted to review a few weather related items. Please send your children dressed in appropriate outdoor attire based on the weather conditions. We try to go outside daily, unless it is raining or we fall into a temperature range that is significantly cold (Below 15 Degrees with or without wind chill). If your child does not have proper clothing, they may be held out of outdoor recess. Being dressed appropriately makes the experience much better for everyone! Please label all of your child's outerwear. It makes lost items much easier to return.

If your child is missing something, please have them check the Lost and Found located in the bus bay. We have started to develop a large inventory and want to get these items to their rightful owner. Eventually all unclaimed items are donated to a goodwill agency. Thank you for your continued support!

Here are several upcoming events in December:

- 6th: PTO Meeting @ 6:30
- 7th: 5th Grade Concert @ 7:00
Make-up Picture Day
- 9th: Character Education Assembly @ 2:15
- 14th: Holiday Shop
BOE Meeting @ Goff @ 7:00
- 15th: Holiday Shop

- 24th-January 2nd: School Recess

Enjoy the holiday season with your family and friends.

Sincerely,
Mr. Alvey