

Dolores Secondary School

Parent Monday Memo--November 26, 2018

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to school! I am excited to see the students and watching them finish successfully these last four weeks of the semester. It is so hard to believe that much time has passed.

I am excited to announce that our new secondary counselor, Elisa Olson, starts today! She will be working with staff members--School Social Worker Peggy Pine and Advising Specialist Jen Stark--to add the third leg to our guidance and advisement department. Specifically, Ms. Olson will be working with students on social-emotional skills, stress management, small group counseling (as needed), and behavior planning. Ms. Olson has a Master's in Counseling Psychology and many years experience working with kids. We are thrilled to have her join us.

Community Engagement and Resources Survey

Attached to this week's announcements, you will find a link for our annual Community Engagement and Resources Survey. Please take a few moments to fill out this survey. The results will be used collectively in order for us to know what sorts of services and communication our parents/community members need from us. The data is anonymous, and will not be used on any individual basis. It will only be used as a whole.

HOPE Montezuma

Our School Social Worker, Peggy Pine, has been partnering with several community organizations to begin a Community Engagement series of films that are of special importance to students and their families. This series will kick off on January 8, with "Rachel's Challenge." check back later for more details.

Advisory/Career Prep This Week

7th and 8th graders will be setting goals for their Winter administration of the NWEA, which will take place December 17-20.

9th, 10th, and 11th will continue to work on PSAT and SAT Prep

12th will take a survey to determine the remainder of the advising year--they will be separated into two groups--College Prep and Workforce Prep. They will also have a class meeting to discuss their upcoming senior trip.

Focus of the Month: We Are Connected~Focus of the Week: Always Seek Synergies

Walt Disney is considered one of the finest producers in the entertainment industry. It can be argued that no one has achieved his level of success and pushed an industry further. From the first film with synchronized sound to Disney World, his life embodied dreaming big and doing the impossible. For the first half of his career, Walt made a living producing films for movie theaters. When TV was introduced, it was a real threat to his livelihood. As a matter of fact, all the major film studios fought the new medium vehemently. Walt Disney, however, sought to embrace television. He once said, "TV was not the enemy of the studios, but rather the ally." For him it became another way to distribute his products. What many people do not realize is that it was TV that actually enabled Walt to build Disneyland in California. At the time, ABC was the smallest of the three networks, lagging behind NBC and CBS. ABC was looking for new content that could reposition them and put them on a path of growth. Walt structured a deal to bring Disney programming to ABC, and gained an investment from them that actually allowed Disneyland to be constructed. The rest, as they say, is history. Moreover, the Disney brand and its famous front men, Walt Disney and Mickey Mouse, received critical exposure through television that propelled the Disney brand into becoming one of the most powerful in the world today.

In his book, *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*, John Maxwell describes a period of great stress in the life of John Schnatter, the founder of Papa John's Pizza. Schnatter had grown Papa John's to a fairly large pizza delivery business, but his life was a mess. He was stressed out and working ridiculous hours. In a cold sweat, Schnatter woke one morning with a clear realization. He concluded that he was unable to work any harder or any smarter than he was already working. Until he learned to work through others, his life would always be drastically limited. He changed his entire management philosophy, letting go of control and empowering others to help him build the business. Today, Papa John's operates 3500 restaurants in all 50 US states and in 29 countries.

Every person who comes into your life can help you live your dreams. But it's up to you to find the synergy with them yourself, the mutual benefit that will help create better lives for each of you, and ultimately a better world. It's essential that you learn to effectively work with, for, and through others, because they can give you new knowledge and opportunities, provide you with critical talents and skills, and have an exponentially positive impact on the meaning of your life.

--from *The 7 Mindsets*

An interesting article on Anxiety in Children and Teens

