

No better alternative!



2020-21 WOODLAND SCHOOL

START HERE. STRIVE HERE. SUCCEED HERE.

Principal's Message

Can you believe it is almost February? In light of all that has gone on with the pandemic, the school shutdowns, and remote learning, the school year is going as fast as a traditional school year. At Woodland, teachers are working hard to get students engaged and learning every day. Participation and engagement data for the month reveals that almost 50% of students are on-line 5 days a week. Remember, it takes a strong partnership to keep pushing education forward and the teachers and school administration appreciate the increased efforts you have done to keep times as normal as possible. In my communication with parents they have shared that setting alarms, reserving a quiet place in the home, knowing how to log in and showing general interest in what they are studying makes all the difference. Please continue to make your child's educational experience the best ever and please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Important Upcoming Dates:

February 12th Early Dismissal

February 15th Schools closed- President's Day

February 16th: Schools closed for Teacher PD

Transition News

Happy New Year! As the end of the second marking period approaches, students in the transition program have been hard at work completing their essential assignments. (Honor Roll here we come!) We have been learning about the election process in the United States, and are closely following the current events taking place in our nation as Inauguration Day 2021 approaches! Our classroom has also been exploring entry-level jobs for teenagers. We are using the BLS Occupational Outlook Handbook to research information about possible first jobs, such as retail sales workers and food/beverage serving workers. We have been completing sample job applications to practice applying for jobs in the future. We're excited to see what the new year brings!

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SEL News

Greetings from your therapeutic team! Through the ongoing challenges that this school year is bringing us, it is important to take time for ourselves during the day. Through Social-Emotional Learning, we are reminded of the importance of taking mindful moments throughout the day. Find the time to do some deep breathing, close your eyes, and be in the moment. Checking in with ourselves is important. Remember that your therapeutic team is available to provide support to staff, students, and families always!

Unified Arts News

In Tech. Ed. - Woodshop, we started the year off by virtually touring some of the Earth's most famous forests. As we progressed through the fall season, students focused on fall foliage, the making of maple syrup and even made some scientific connections with Bill Nye. Students also spent some time reviewing hand tools and machine safety before the holiday break. Currently, students are observing different projects created using a variety of different tools and machines. Some favorites have been chainsaw art, lathe projects and hand carvings. As requested by students, Woodshop Tool of the Month will be making a comeback and will focus on a specific tool and it's uses!

Reading Support

A tip for encouraging your young reluctant reader: **READ ALOUD!** Little kids need to hear us model how to read with excitement, expression, and skill. Make this part of your nightly routine and snuggle up together to enjoy a good book. It's OK to reread a favorite story. This is actually good for young readers, especially when they aren't typically interested in reading. Rereading the same book benefits your child by giving them an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the story and build their vocabulary.

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Elementary School News

In January we have spent time talking about the New Year and setting goals for ourselves. We continue to work on remote learning and working in groups and break out rooms. Social Emotional Learning is explored daily, as well as in social skills groups weekly with Mrs. Gliha. We also implement behavioral strategies daily to assist with students while remote learning. We also are learning about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and exploring social justice issues. We are exploring winter themes as well. In academic groupings, we are working on math concepts in groups in each of our elementary classrooms. In addition, we are working on reading comprehension strategies and vocabulary, as well as working on decoding and phonemic awareness in small groups.



Middle School News

As we enter into 2021, our in-person middle school learners will be transitioning back to school. Our remote learners will be continuing to work from home. All in-person learners will be back to wearing mandatory masks, at all times, while in school and on the bus continuing to practice our safety rules for our community. In addition, students will need to bring their computers and chargers to school every day in order to benefit from curriculum and be an essential part of their classes. Middle school students work on becoming more responsible and independent. We believe all of our students are ready to thrive and grow. In a new year, we all have a chance to make a positive change for ourselves and others. Let's do something positive!

High School News

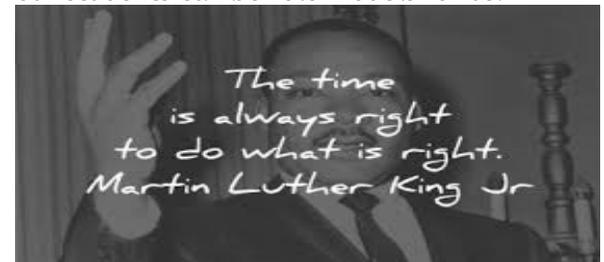
This month the high school team would like to highlight the thoughts of Ms. Mariano:

I started out this school year writing common goals with my students, with no way of knowing how much those goals would shape our year, and resonate within every lesson, challenge, and accomplishment.

For review, here they are:

1. To work as a team.
2. To earn our high school credits.
3. To increase our knowledge.
4. To allow ourselves and others to make mistakes.
5. To remain safe and healthy.
6. To learn and use strategies to get us through difficult times.
7. To work through challenges.

If I had to choose one word to summarize these goals, and the nearly five months of school we have already put behind us, that word would be resilience. It takes resilience to make mistakes and acknowledge them, to learn and use strategies, and to work through challenges. Not only in my classroom, but around the screens and hallways of Woodland, this resilience is endless, demonstrated most notably by the fact that we have 21 Woodland students graduating in January. These individuals have persevered through unprecedented times, including technology troubles, mask-wearing, social distancing, unexpected schedule changes and remote learning, not to mention the abundance of other challenges a typical Woodland student faces on a daily basis, in order to earn their ticket to a better future. They exemplify resilience. I often think of myself as a role model. This is a nice reminder that sometimes our students can be role models for us.



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