



# Gibson Gazette

Volume 6, Issue 4

March/April 2017

## Upcoming Events:

- 4/17 Online Registration Begins
- 4/18 School Organizational Team Meeting
- 4/21 Registration Dance Party
- 4/27 FACES Class—Writing with your Child
- 4/28 Student of the Month Breakfast
- 5/5 Field Day
- 5/9 School Organizational Team Meeting

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## The Principal's Pen

It has come to our attention that we may need to refocus our efforts in getting our students to school on time, and on a regular basis.

A recent article in Harvard's *Ed. Magazine*, describes a recent study conducted that traced the correlates of dropping out of high school all the way back to first grade. The early warning signs, indicating the beginnings of disengagement from school were; having been absent nine or more times by the end of the third marking period, being below grade level in reading and/or math, and/or having a calculated grade point average below 1.3 in the third marking period. The research showed that 79% of eventual dropouts could be identified by these first grade indicators.

We must have our students attend school on a regular basis in order to provide continuous,

uninterrupted instruction. Decisions we make for our children's attendance today, have long term effects on their future education. It is in elementary school that we develop the foundations and habits for learning.

As a reminder, our school day starts at 7:45 a.m. when we meet as a community to focus on our days events. During our Opening Ceremonies, we celebrate children and make important announcements for the day and week ahead. It is an important way to start out the day. Morning Ceremonies begin promptly at 7:48 a.m.

We end Opening Ceremonies and begin making our way to the classroom as our instructional day begins at 7:56 a.m. We have encouraged our teachers to start teaching promptly at this time so that we are able to maximize instructional time.

Many students are not arriving until 8:00 am, so they then start their day a little flustered as they attempt to "catch up" with the rest of their classmates. Not only does this cause undo stress on the children, it impacts the instruction of the remainder of the class as often teachers are required to repeat directions for those students who are tardy.

Please make every effort to ensure that your child is present for Opening Ceremonies.

If your child comes to school for breakfast, we begin serving at 7:30 a.m. Children who have school breakfast, and are not enrolled in the Safekey program, should not be on campus prior to 7:25 a.m. as there is no adult supervision available.

Thank you for your cooperation in making everyday a great day for learning.

## Register on Infinite Campus for the 2017-18 School Year!

Please be sure to register your child on Infinite Campus for the 2017-18 school year. The registration window opens Monday, April 17, 2017. Registration must be completed each year on the Infinite Campus system.

Please come to the school office if you need assistance with your log in information.

**A dance party will take place on Friday, April 21, 2017 at 1:30 pm. For all students who bring in their registration confirmation information.**

### The Leaders of Gibson Elementary



February 2017 Students of the Month

### The Leaders of Gibson Elementary



March 2017 Students of the Month

## Testing Season

Testing is used in schools for two main purposes. One is to find out how well and individual student is learning in the classroom. The other is to find out how well the school is meeting local and national benchmarks for student achievement. For this purpose, schools use standardized tests. In Clark County our students take the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium or SBAC.

As a parent, the most important way you can help your child do well on tests is to read with your child regularly, talk with her about her experiences, and provide a quiet workspace at home. When well-meaning parents focus too much on test results, they put undue pressure on young children.

To help prepare for routine classroom assessments; provide a variety of books, children's magazines, and enriching experiences to spark your child's curiosity and build vocabulary, make sure your child gets time and space for homework, gets enough rest and a well-balanced diet, and consult your child's teacher to find out if there are specific skills your can practice at home.

To help prepare for standardized tests; ask the teacher for the testing schedule and practice tests so you can familiarize your child with the format ahead of time so she knows what to expect, respond to any concern your child will have with encouragement and support. Emphasize that there are lots of ways to express what you know, and that these tests are just one measure.

- provided by FACES, CCSD.

## Counselor's Corner: Habit 4 — Think Win-Win

Each Month classroom teachers conduct class meetings based upon the 7 Habits featured in The Leader in Me program. During the month of February, our focus was on Habit 4—Think Win-Win. This Habit focuses on finding solutions that work for all people. It also teaches children to stand for what they believe in, but at the same time, show respect for the viewpoints of others.

Habit 4 is Think Win-Win, which is the belief that everyone can win when it

comes to relationships. It's not me or you – it is both of us. It is a belief that there are enough good things for everyone. It is an abundant way of thinking. Think Win-Win is being happy for others when good things happen to them. As a parent, not everything is negotiable, but if you go into discussions with your child with a win-win mindset, you'll find a lot less resistance.

Check out the children's book [The 7 Habits of Happy Kids](#) by Sean Covey from the library and you can read some stories with

your kids that deal with thinking win-win.

