

From the Principal

March 3, 2007

It's Working

There are several ways to determine if an effort at making a difference in an educational organization is working. One way, is to take a test to see if what was established as the objective has been learned or accomplished. Another way to determine success is to actually observe the objective put into practice.

I am very pleased to announce that over the last two trimesters, several groups and individuals have actually stepped forward and demonstrated their understanding of LifeSkills by developing or organizing activities that bring the skill to life.

The most recent example is being set for the month of March. Two fifth grade students, Juliet H. and Kate D. have stepped forward and formed a steering committee to organize an activity that will involve all fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students in the Lifeskill of TEAMWORK. The plan brings together our Physical Education program, Running Club, Classrooms, and preparations for the Junior Olympics.

On Thursday, the students and I presented the Lifeskill of TEAMWORK as practiced on a relay team. We are inviting all fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students to join a team of four to participate in learning how to run a 3 Mile team relay. The preparation for the event will be performed in Physical Education class by Mr. Heeb. The students will learn that it only takes a small effort by each to accomplish a big effort by all. Each member of the team will only carry the baton for one fourth of the mile as each member goes around the track one time. That member will have a second and third opportunity to either run/walk the distance. So, overall each team member is only running or walking three, one fourth mile distances as the relay event takes place. We are not seeking winners in terms of who comes in first, rather, we are seeking finishers; teams can demonstrate that they can work together to accomplish a task.

Over the course of the month of March team members may participate in the Running Club. The Running Club meets at 12:25 each Tuesday and Thursday. Students may participate in games that build running endurance, learn to warm up and stretch, and learn how conditioning takes time, but prepares the body for physical activity.

As the days get closer to the relay, Mr. Heeb will spend time practicing the baton pass and present strategies for running a distance of one quarter of a mile (440 yards).

We hope the students will learn skills they can use in their daily lives. We also want the event to build school spirit and promote a bit of fun over the next few weeks.

Be on the lookout for the big day when we actually demonstrate our Lifeskill of TEAMWORK.

And Speaking of Teamwork...

The SpringerTime Auction was a remarkable event. We are truly blessed to live in a community that continues to work together to accomplish the task of quality education for all students. Kimberly D. and Signa A. took the lead and developed quite a team. The evening was a super success. Thank you one and all !