November 25, 2019
Message from Superintendent

Greetings to Pine-Richland Students, Parents and Community,

On behalf of the entire district, we wish all of our students, parents and staff a Happy Thanksgiving. We are fortunate to live and work in a community that values education. The recent parent-teacher conferences provided the opportunity to have thousands of conversations about student learning. We want to keep the lines of communication open between home and school as the year progresses.

The "image" to the right was "snipped" from our district vision and illustrates the important concept of teamwork and collaboration to support the best possible educational environment. Finally, we want to thank our students, staff and families for the community service and charitable donations to so many different organizations and people at this time of year. Thank you.

The 2019 Academic Achievement and Growth Report was presented to the community on November 18, 2019. This annual report and presentation summarize student learning results for a series of standardized tests (e.g., PSSA, Keystone Exams, SAT, ACT, and Advanced Placement). Members of the Pine-Richland administration and teaching staff evaluate the results to better understand performance and refine elements of curriculum and instruction. It is important to note that the report is narrowly focused on standardized measures. These measures only serve as one component of a quality education. The emerging focus on the PR Graduate Portrait provides a more holistic framework for student learning and development (i.e., knowledge, skills, health/wellness and personal qualities/characteristics).

The district continues to take a strategic approach to the topic of school safety and security. Prior communications have summarized improvements in building design, personnel, technology and law enforcement. In addition to those topics, two other areas of specific focus relate to a safety curriculum for students and increased mental health services. Students are engaged in activities to strengthen a positive school culture, identify learning signs/ risk factors and serve as responsible reporters. We have seen a very positive increase in the use of the TIP5 Line and Safe2Say Something reporting tools. In addition, the district has partnered with Holy Family Institute to provide the opportunity for mental health services at all six schools. These services are separate from the counseling and support provided by our counselors and psychologists. Holy Family Institute services are confidential and managed directly through their staff.

After serving for eight years, Mrs. Virginia Goebel has completed her service as a board member at Pine-Richland. We thank her for her commitment of time and expertise over two terms of elected office. Eight members of the Pine-Richland School Board will continue to provide governance and oversight of district strategy and operations. Since one member was elected to both a two-year and four-year seat in Region 3, the board will declare a vacancy at its reorganization meeting on December 2 and advertise for candidates to interview for that role. More information will be shared next week. The candidate appointed to this position will serve through November 2021.

Thank you again for your commitment and support of the Pine-Richland School District. As a final recognition this month, and another example of learning "outside" the classroom, congratulations to all of our participants in the Thanksgiving Season.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Brian Miller

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

Pine-Richland High School
Pine-Richland Middle School
Eden Hall Upper School

Peer-to-Peer Launches Outreach Initiative with Younger Students
Visitors Share Expertise in Variety of Careers
Students Put Engineering Design Process to Test

Students are launching an initiative to mentor younger students. Details...
Students gain insight into a myriad of careers. Details...
Students build bridges to test their knowledge of the design process.

Hance Elementary School
Richardson Elementary School
Eden Hall Lower School

Student Emaa Chance to Play Who Wants to Be RAMS Way Millionaire
Seniors Share RAMS Way Message with Primary Students
Eden Hall Upper School

See how one student is put to the test during Who Wants to Be a RAMS Way Millionaire. Details...
Older students focus on RAMS Way message by reading to younger students. Details...
Eden Hall Upper School

Wexford Elementary School

Wexford is Helping Others This Thanksgiving Season

Upcoming PR School Board Meetings

7 p.m. on Dec. 2, 2019
PR School Board Reorganization

7 p.m. on Dec. 9, 2019
Combined Planning & Regular Meeting

Pine-Richland School District
724-633-7773, ext. 6202
www.pinerichland.org