

SCHOOL COUNSELING OFFICE

Month in Review

Greetings!

Greetings from Mrs. Nicholson and Mrs. Cardinal! November has been a busy month in the S.C. office. Let us share a few things with you.

Reality Store Day

The first Friday in November is a huge event for our seventh graders, Reality Store Day! Leading up to that day, our seventh graders draw a slip to see if they are married or single and how many children they have. They choose from a list of careers that we have aligned their GPAs from the first grading period of the school year, the higher the GPA the more choices they have. Once they have chosen a career, we give them what their salary for a year and a month would be. We then helped them to set up their checking and savings accounts.

Then the big day arrives! Throughout the day, students got to participate in a lesson/game with United Way volunteers to learn about unwritten rules about finances. They also heard from service member recruiters, global economy industry workers, resume-building experts and local colleges to see if these areas could be a part of their future.

A large amount of time, though, was spent in the "Store." Students took their checking and savings accounts and went from booth to booth, paying a house payment, car payment, utilities, groceries, student loans, insurance, and many more. They had to see if they could live the lifestyle they wanted on the budget they had or if they needed to change something in their education to make sure they had the opportunity to live as they wanted.

Our most stated feedback from students-"Kids are expensive!" A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who helped up that day! It definitely wouldn't have been possible without all of them!

A Mental Note...

"There is hope...even when your brain tells you there isn't." John Green









Classroom Lessons

Our month didn't stop with Reality Store Day, though, The week of Nov. 7, we met with seventh graders for an auditorium lesson about Communication. Students learned that communication is more than just saying words. And then they learned how to better handle situations when miscommunication happens.

The week of Nov. 14, it was the eighth graders' turn for an auditorium lesson. Their lesson dealt with Conflict Resolution. Students helped with a scenario where people "stirred the pot" to cause drama. They learned where conflict can happen and the healthy way to address conflict in order to find a solution.

7th grade students volunteered to describe the left picture to the other student who volunteered to draw what they were describing (right picture) Exact directions and descriptions were key in successfully replicating this image and vital to effective communication!





only gatestuciers volunteering to 'stir the pot' with rumors being read aloud on the sheets of paper. Students dropped these sheets into the pot to symbolize how people take gossip and run with it to make a big mess. They learned to filter information and how to identify if they need to relay this information, or let the rumor die with them.

Nutrition Club

Nutrition Club is offered for students who need additional assistance with meals on the weekends. Bags are placed in lockers each Friday to take home. Contact the S.C.O. if your student needs this resource.

stay in the loop



MIDTERM WAS NOV. 14TH AND REPORTS WERE DELIVERED TO YOUR STUDENT NOV. 18TH DURING 7TH PERIOD. MAKE SURE TO CHECK YOUR STUDENT'S SKYWARD IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF THEIR GRADES.

THEY'VE BEEN DUCKED!

WE SURPRISE STUDENTS WITH
RUBBER DUCKS IN THEIR LOCKER
AFTER STAFF ANONYMOUSLY
NOMINATES STUDENTS FOR DOING A
RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS FOR
SOMEONE HERE AT JCMS.

DECEMBER SPIRIT WEEK

START PLANNING AHEAD FOR JCMS
SPIRIT WEEK DEC. 12-16!
MONDAY: GRINCH GREEN
TUESDAY: UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER
WEDNESDAY: RED/WHITE DAY
THURSDAY: COZY DAY
FRIDAY: SWINTER DAY
GSUMMER/WINTER. THINK BOTH OR EITHER SEASON

