

January 12, 2024

Dear Link Families:

This Monday (January 15) school will be closed in honor of Martin Luther King Day. As I do each year, I'd like to share a quote from Dr. King which has been most meaningful to me throughout my life:

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

I feel that in education, this statement is the purpose for why we do what we do. Here at Link the entire staff is in service for our students. We truly believe in the value of education and work tirelessly to provide each and every child with an outstanding learning experience. Our involvement in the International Baccalaureate program also provides students with systems of learning that challenge them to think critically and work collaboratively to become caring and culturally aware citizens of their own learning. We are developing students to become invested in making a difference in their own lives, their community, and beyond. Our upcoming Grade 5 Exhibition is a wonderful example of the synthesis of this. Each group has an Action Plan to put research into a service project to help others - I believe Dr. King would support this wholeheartedly!

Thank you for your partnership as we work together to support our children. One of the many ways this will be shown is that we will soon be working to complete our PYP projects. These projects are family-themed. They celebrate our cultures, traditions, holidays, and our ancestors. These also include ways to make the world a better place. These are wonderful activities and we are proud to continue them. These will be on display at the PTA's International Night (date TBD in April).

Today Link was a veritable rainbow of color as we participated in our first "color war." It is great to see the school spirit on display and I appreciate our Student Council (and Mrs. Clancy) for arranging this for us!

Link's PTA has been active with securing fundraisers, programs, and other activities that support and enhance school programs. Please visit their webpage for additional information (dinalinkpta.org) and thank you for your help.

Kindergarten registration is on-going, so please direct any neighbors or those you might know who have a kindergarten-aged child in the CCSD to the district webpage which provides all the information for this process. We are excited to welcome our next class of kindergarten students to Link!

The January weather is often unpredictable, but please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for the day. When the temperature is conducive to being outside, we do try to go out (even for a short time) if the blacktop is accessible and safe. Many students wear shorts to

school - but having a pair of sweatpants or joggers to put over shorts when we go outside might be something to consider.

Although not my most favorite season, there is something about the winter months that does appeal to me. Perhaps it's the heartier meals, the comfort of warm sweaters, the ability to walk my dog in fresh, cold air, or those amazing winter morning skies. I hope you and your families enjoy the long weekend and find something to do that you love with people that you love.

Sincerely,
Mary Bish, Principal