

Dear Franklin Families:

Today was our Character & Diversity Day where our Grade Level Moderators prepared a lesson on Respect and Political Correctness. This is such an important topic of conversation. Our students need to understand that everyone has worth and dignity as a human being, whether they are young or old, rich or poor, male or female, or any other difference. Everyone should be treated with honor, dignity, and courtesy.

Self-respect means you recognize your own worth as a human being and avoid anything that will damage your mind, body, or integrity. This means you do your best regardless of who is watching—because what you do reveals who you are.

Respect does not mean you have to like everyone. But even when you disagree with others, you can still do so with the dignity and respect. Start a conversation with your student tonight using the following questions:

- How does it feel when someone shows disrespect?
- How can you respect other students? How can you respect your teachers?
- What are some good manners you can show at meal time, at the store, or at school?
- What would happen to bullying if everyone showed respect to one another?

After a good discussion, ask your student to commit to the following 5 simple rules:

1. Value others.
2. Respect differences.
3. Use good manners.
4. Not bully or harass others.
5. Treat people the way I want to be treated.

This is also a great time to discuss the charity organization we are recognizing this month on Friday, January 26th. Twenty percent of the proceeds will go to Operation Warm. Operation Warm provides **brand-new winter coats** to children in need, helping improve self-confidence, peer acceptance, school attendance, and overall wellness—they believe a new winter coat can provide more than just warmth. Please see attached flyer for more information.

Next week is Homecoming Week for our high school students. Student Government along with our Athletic Department have prepared a week of activities including a Volleyball New Year's Classic on Saturday morning and ending in a Homecoming Dance at the Floridian Ballroom Saturday evening. Please make sure your student has purchased their tickets!

On Wednesday evening (1/17), we have our monthly Parent Academy. We are asking all 8th grade parents to come at 6 pm for a special presentation by Mrs. Showalter on preparing for high school. At 6:30, we will have our regular presentation for all grades by our guidance staff and the class moderators. These evenings are so important every month. Not only do you earn your service hours but more importantly, as parents we must show our students that education is the most important thing. Please make it your priority to attend.

Last but not least, please make sure that you follow the emailed instructions regarding the Intent to Return for 2018-19. We are already starting our tours for interested families this month on Saturday 1/13 and Wednesday 1/17. If you know of any family interested in attending, please ask them to sign up for a tour on our website.

Sincerely,

Dr. Arlene H. Valdes

Principal