

Good evening Franklin Families,

Let me begin by reassuring you that everything at school is going very well and your children are very safe. We took all precautions because their safety is always of the utmost importance. However, it is evident now that we have to work together as a team to educate our students on how to properly express their feelings. It is not appropriate at any time to vandalize school property by writing in a bathroom stall and it is certainly not acceptable to write a threat. Please know that writing a threat on a bathroom stall even if a joke is considered a felony. We continue to partner with local law enforcement to preserve our student and campus safety.

This brings me to our character trait for this month. As mentioned at the last Parent Academy, the first Thursday of every month is Character/Diversity Day. This month, we are looking at “Responsibility” and recognizing National Italian American month.

Responsibility is being accountable for one’s actions and following various rules, laws, and conduct codes. Responsible citizens treat others fairly, are trustworthy, honor their commitments, and are environmentally aware. As per the 6 Pillars of Character, you can be a model of responsibility by doing the following:

RE-REspect other people’s opinions and items.

SP- Show Positive character, even if no one is watching.

ON- Own up to mistakes and **Never** make excuses for your actions.

SI- be Successful at managing Independence. Do what needs to be done without having to be reminded.

BI – Be a positive Influence on your friends and family.

LI- Look for ways to be Involved in your school or community.

TY- Take your responsibility for **Your** actions.

Given what occurred this week, it provides us the perfect opportunity to talk to our children about how to be responsible citizens. What is the difference between reporting valuable information and spreading rumors? Responsible citizens take action in their communities. In this light, I am reminding you of the importance of the Socktober project. We have asked all families to sell 20 pairs of socks to support and amputee and to support members of our local community devastated by the hurricane.

As part of our efforts to make students globally aware, we will have a dress down day each month as a fundraiser for a particular organization. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Our dress down day will be on October 19th. Let’s teach responsibility together. Take the time this weekend to discuss the different ways to be responsible in our personal lives, as members of a school community, and as citizens in a global society.

Next Wednesday night, October 11th, is our Parent Academy where our AP of Academics and College Planning Mrs. Showalter along with our Curriculum Specialist Mrs. Vazquez, will present the state of Florida assessments requirements for given subjects. Some of the topics covered will be how your student’s data is used, available resources and the importance and impact of state testing. We have a common goal; your student’s academic success. In order to be

a step closer to this goal, it is important to be able to access and use available resources. Please don't miss this very important meeting and opportunity to earn required service hours. We will also be looking for volunteers to join our Booster Network!

We know this has been a trying week, however, it's time to put our focus back on to our academic goals. I look forward to seeing everyone back at school tomorrow. I will send you an updated monthly calendar along with a few informational flyers as reminders tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Dr. Arlene H. Valdes

Principal

Franklin Academy