

Counselor's Corner

March 2019

- **Online Courses**—Select 7th/8th grade students will continue to work with Ms. Weber during their elective time for the 4th quarter to complete their online Spanish 1 or Algebra 1 courses. Three 8th grade students are preparing to take the Algebra 1 entrance exam at the high school of their choice for next year. If they pass the exam, these students will have the opportunity to take Geometry as freshman and earn an extra high school math credit before entering college. Ms. Weber has collaborated with the school counselors at Highlands and Bellevue to set up the entrance exam and obtain a practice test to help the students prepare for the exam. We are excited to see how the students' hard work will pay off!
- **Dreamfest**—Ms. Weber will accompany the Southgate gifted and talented students to NKU on Thursday, March 14 to the annual Dreamfest event. Ms. Weber will assist in a station called, "Are You Ready to be a Problem Solver," and she will also oversee our students throughout the day.
- **"Working Lunch" and Student Grades**—Ms. Weber will continue to take middle school students during lunch/recess on Fridays to complete makeup work and improve failing grades. With the help of Mrs. Iden, Ms. Weber now has access to an ad hoc report in Infinite Campus that allows her to generate a list of students with failing grades at any time. For the last couple weeks of the third quarter, Ms. Weber worked with students and their parents to try to get them off the failure list. We are hopeful that we will have even fewer failures in the fourth quarter now that the system is in place to identify struggling students earlier.
- **Cross-age Mentoring**—On Fridays throughout the fourth quarter, Ms. Weber will be working with three 7th grade students who have been identified as peer leaders due to their exceptional grades and MAP scores. Ms. Weber will pair these three students with three elementary students who could benefit from additional positive role models and support. The mentoring pairs will meet weekly to share a variety of fun experiences: reading, board games, computer time, etc. Ms. Weber will instruct the peer leaders about how to help their younger partners set goals and make good decisions in school. Ms. Weber will supervise the students each week to ensure that the mentoring relationships are having a positive impact on all the students involved.
- **Classroom Guidance**—Ms. Weber has begun a new program with the kindergarten class called "Setting Sail for Self-Control." This program teaches students self-regulatory skills that improve behavior and academic success. Ms. Weber chose this program specifically for the fourth quarter to help the students as they prepare to transition into first grade next year. The preschool classes are continuing with the *Second Step* classroom curriculum. This month, the students have moved into the unit on "emotion management."