

**Board of Trustees Meeting
Mineola Primary School
Principal's Report
December 15, 2014**

- **Mileage Club:** Students are continuing their trek across North America. Students have turned east at Anchorage, Alaska and are heading back towards the Atlantic Ocean. Students have walked a total of 7,365 miles and one student has eclipsed 50 miles.
- **Reading and Writing support from Region VII:** Ms. Johnston continued her support of Daily 5 implementation. Ms. Johnston noted the following practices:
 - Growth in differentiated learning among groups
 - Sound practices in classroom management, understanding of procedures and success with independent tasks
 - Strong use of multiple modalities in technology and “Word Work” rotations
 - Continued growth in student’s individual reading skills
- **Focused Friday:** 1st Grade hosted the first Focused Friday on November 21, 2014. Focused Friday is designed to look at a theme from a trans-curricular view. The theme of Thanksgiving was thoroughly vetted through the disciplines of science, social-cultural science, math, reading, writing, and music. The next focused Friday will be a world view of Christmas.
- **2nd Grade Visits The Aquarium in Dallas:** 2nd grade students visited the Aquarium in Dallas. The students were able to learn about different habitats, eating habits, and food chain of different underwater creatures. Students wrote about their experiences while at the aquarium.
- **ESL Consultants:** Primary school teachers have participated in two professional development opportunities to help meet the need of English language learners.
 - Mrs. Delgado, ESL Specialist, Region VII - Mrs. Delgado met with teachers to discuss ELPS requirements for ELL. Mrs. Delgado will return to our school in January to continue the support of effective strategies.
 - Dr. Kathleen Everling, Professor, UT Tyler - Dr. Everling met with each grade level to determine how each grade level instructs English language learners. Dr. Everling will return in January to share specific instructional strategies for ELLs.
- **Jacket Dads:** The Jacket Dads will host a Father/Daughter dance on Thursday, December 18, 2014 at 6:00 pm in the Primary school cafeteria. The Father/Daughter dance will serve as a fundraiser for Jacket Dad efforts throughout the year. This could possibly be moved to a later date.
- **Breakfast with Santa:** The PTP hosted the annual Breakfast with Santa fundraiser on Saturday, December 6, 2014. Students and parents gathered to eat pancakes, make crafts and talk with Santa.
- **Christmas Cards:** All students and families will receive a Christmas card from the faculty and staff of the Primary school. The Christmas cards display student art work with a Christmas theme.
- **Kiwanis Presentation:** Five 1st grade students presented a computer lab project with the Mineola Kiwanis Club on Tuesday, December 9, 2014. Students showed their creative ability in reading, writing, story narration and computer generated art.
- **Drop Everything and Read/Principal for a Day:** On Wednesday, December 17, 2014, Aubrey Piburn, a 2nd grader at Mineola Primary school, will be the acting “Principal” for the day. Ms. Piburn has requested the following educational and operational activities for the day:
 - Students will wear pajamas
 - Students will “Drop Everything and Read” for the entire day
 - Students will be given a “special” treat during lunch
 - The acting "principal" does not have the power to discipline any students, set or change the salary schedule, grant permission for leave or cancel school or make, change, or amend school/district policy.

Other Information:

- Gifted and Talented nominations began on December 8, 2014 and will end on December 19, 2014
- 1st and 2nd graders will visit the Select Theater for showings of “Prancer” and “Polar Express.”
- PTP will host a teacher appreciation lunch on Wednesday, December 17, 2014
- Daily 5 specialist Pasty Ramirez will return to our school on January 20, 2015
- Jump Rope for Heart begins on January 26, 2015