March 7, 2018

#### H.I.S. Beliefs

#### We believe:

- supportive relationships strengthen positive educational and life experiences.
- high expectations compel students to strive for excellence.
- an accepting and encouraging school environment inspires intellectual risk taking.
- authentic and engaging experiences foster opportunities for high levels of learning and growth.
- clear and open communication creates a pathway for school and community collaboration.

# March Board Report

All of our students are arriving with smiles on their faces every day and continuously learning new things as the school year continues to progress. Our teachers are building activities and lessons from collections of data from our students. They are using this information also to continually plan engaging lesson and incorporating various types of technology! We are all looking forward to continued success and great experiences this year at HIS! Go Eagles!

## H.I.S. Counselor's Corner

Each month the students at H.I.S. have the opportunity to exhibit a certain character trait and receive the character idol award. While all staff encourages all students to exhibit these traits all the time, students are selected by their teachers that go above and beyond to show these specific traits with classmates and others as well as

through their daily work habits. This month the character trait was honesty. Students that were chosen will get to have a pizza lunch with Mrs. Fleming and play games for prizes. These students will also receive a spirit stick for the trait of honesty. We are also starting something new this year. Each of these students will get a sign to place in their yard that says, "H.I.S. Honesty Character Idol lives here! Go HIS Eagles!" We are looking forward to celebrating with these honesty character idols! We can't wait to see who earns the honors for March which is cooperation.

### **Terrific Third Graders**

Students' completed their yearly reading and math benchmarks at the end of February. March will be filled with a lot of reviewing, reteaching, and trying to master concepts based on their benchmark data. Students will be grouped based on concepts and abilities and taught accordingly. Concepts will be spiraled as well to continue keeping their strategies fresh in the students mind. Teachers will be working extra hard to try and fill gaps and make sure students are making progress on concepts-hard to believe the school year is coming to end. Teachers will begin after school tutorials to have even more time to work with struggling students. In math, students have been taught all 3rd grade TEKS and we will start reviewing starting with the TEKS that were taught in August. Teachers will be combining and co-teaching groups. Students will be working extra hard! Students will be continuing to work towards mastering their multiplication facts. Post STAAR in May, there is a multiplication movie party! Students will be rewarded for the facts they have tested on and shown mastery. Each fact passed earns them different items for the celebration. They begin learning their easier facts such as the 0, 5, 10's and then move on to more rigorous facts. Their rewards are a movie ticket, popcorn, soda, and candy. March also brings spring break which allows the kids and teachers a much needed break! After spring break the 17-18 school year will continue to fly by!

#### Fabulous Fifth Graders

In the month of March, 5th grade students will be busy and working hard in all of their classes! In ELAR we are reviewing and spiraling all reading concepts from fiction to nonfiction. We will use the concepts in different forms of learning like games, stations and projects. We will be revisiting reading strategies and testing strategies. We will be starting our 3rd novel Hatchet, with great projects that coincide with the book.

In Math we are using benchmark data to individualize instruction and target student needs. Every week we are spiraling and retracting all concepts and testing in the middle of the week. The students that are making a 70 or higher on a spiraled test are able to do projects over the concepts and the students not exceeding a 70 or a higher are being sent to small group reteach.

In Social Studies will be covering the causes and effects of the Civil War plus important battles fought and people that played an important role in our history during the Civil War. We will also look at the Gettysburg Address, the end of slavery and finally the Industrial Revolution.

In Science; students will be exploring the water cycle and will differentiate between weather and climate. The students will also learn about patterns in nature caused by the Earth, Sun, and Moon.

### Phenomenal Fourth Graders

Fourth graders continued their hard work in February, striving for success in their daily work as they continue with their curriculum in addition to benchmarks, TELPAS, and NWEA. After these assessments, both students and teachers were able to pinpoint areas of strengths and areas to focus on for growth. By working together and supporting each other, fourth grade will continue to grow and succeed.

In math, students have worked strengthening their problem solving skills with area and perimeter. They have also learned how to measure angles using a protractor. Students were excited to learn about angles, rays, and parallel and perpendicular lines.

In reading, students wrapped up their poetry unit and began the novel study of Holes. Students are working in stations which include practice activities, novel projects, small guided reading groups, and Sci Learning. The hallway AR reading competition has heated up with multiple classes earning over 400 points!

In writing, students continued expository compositions, focusing on engaging hooks, clear central ideas, and pertinent details. Students improved on familiar grammar skills and learned new skills like apostrophes and plurals, quotation marks in dialogue, homophones, and using the thesaurus.

Our scientists have analyzed and learned about the Earth's Surface. They have also learned that the earth consists of useful resources, and its surface is constantly changing.

#### H.I.S. is GROWing!

In the Eagle Reading Academy/ Tier2/3 Reading, students will be concentrating on Scientific Learning, using FastForward and Reading Assistant which can help to enhance memory, improve attention, maximize potential, think

faster, follow instructions better, boost language acquisition and accelerate reading.

Students will be recognized and rewarded as they make progress in this program. They will spend 3 days a week on FastForward and 2 days a week on Reading Assistant.

Eagle Math is hard at work on the new Compass Math folders. We are learning how the NWEA is connected to the Compass Math folders and how that affects our progress. Many of our students have made significant progress using this program.

This week we are hoping to use the games and number lines that was bought with our grant money. I know they will be of much benefit to the Tier 3 classroom.

Hillsboro Intermediate mathematicians have been busy expanding our knowledge and skills. Across the campus, we have explored units of money, time, and geometry. We have been successful in our learning and feel great about our math skills.

We will be reviewing the benchmark assessments and individual objectives; focusing on weaknesses while maintaining student strengths. Also numerical data analysis: dot plots, stem-and-leaf plots, measurement, and the five elements of reading: phonics, vocabulary, fluency, rate, & comprehension.

3rd, 4th, and 5th ELAR co-teach are wrapping up our YAG reviews with weekly mini-lesson of concepts that include an engaging small group. We're extremely excited in 3rd grade to be wrapping up WONDER and completing our novel study with a compare and contrast of the movie. The students have really grasped the concept of choosing to be kind and seeing that beauty is in the way you treat others, and not on how we see them physically.

The Life Skills unit is exploring the great State of Texas. Students are learning about what makes our state special. Students will also make comparisons between life long ago and life today.

Many of our English language learners have been using Chromebooks to prepare for online STAAR testing. We also will be helping students prepare for the online TELPAS by using technology. Currently, our English language learners are participating in the writing TELPAS by writing compositions in their classes. Co-Teach Math - The Co-Teach math class is currently learning how to use formulas to find the perimeter and area of rectangles. The students are also

learning how to find the length or width of a side when they are given the total area or perimeter, and the measurement of one side of the rectangle.

Co-Teach Language Arts class is currently working on improving their revising and editing skills. They are using these skills to write an expository paper that people will want to read. These skills with help the students prepare for their upcoming Writing STAAR test.

## Here's the SCOOP from SPECIALS

Artists at HIS will be studying color theory this month and we will be drawing flowers for spring.

New Tech App groups will be coming to the lab. All students will create their accounts, learn basic google skills and learn how to keyboard.

From the Library:

The 3rd Grade just completed their novel unit study of the award winning book, Wonder, by R. J. Palacio. The students enjoyed viewing the movie of the same title in the HIS Library Movie Theater, while munching on their popcorn. "In a world where you can be anything, BE KIND."

The 4th Grade is about to finish the read-aloud, Bunnicula a rabbit- tale of mystery, by James Howe.

The 5th Grade is close to completing Wait Till Helen Comes a Ghost Story, by Mary Downing Hahn.

Happy Reading!

Earlier this year, GATE students built their LEGO Mindstorms robots. Coming up, they will learn to program their robots with various sensors. Our G/T friends in Fairfield ISD are also doing the same, and we are planning to visit them in May for some robotics competition.

LEx LAB students will continue to explore various forms of coding. 5th grade has learned the basics of Python and will build on that knowledge. 3rd and 4th grades have learned to code in Scratch and will continue to master "block coding". All students will continue to improve their coding skills with our Dot and Dash robots.

Oh my goodness! I can't wait for the 4th graders to perform their musical, Texas, This is Your Life, on Friday, March 23! They are fantastic already! We are

very busy practicing for our performance! Third and Fifth grades are completing their unit with precorders, and next week, a new group of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will begin their musical journey for the year. For the final 9 weeks, we will be using our xylophones, metallophones, precorders, and our new drums that we received with 2 grants, all throughout the class. We will be singing and playing songs from all around the world!

En la clase de Español: Los estudiantes have been learning about the 21 Spanish speaking countries in the world, and have each been assigned one country to research and present.

The new group group of kids will begin learning alphabet, pronunciation, numbers, colors, etc.

In PE we will be starting up our Fitness Gram Test after we come back from Spring Break! We have been preparing daily for the past 3 weeks getting ready for the Fitness Gram! (Running Laps, Push Ups, Sit Ups, etc...) We also have started our Winter Hillsboro Eagles Olympics this past week which have included Bobsled Races, Hockey, and Curling and we will start our Hillsboro Eagles Summer Olympics next week! The kids have had a blast and are very engaged in our Olympics!

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

March 7<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Design PLC 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

After School Tutorials until 4:20 p.m.

H.I.S. PTA Meeting at 5:00 p.m. in the Library

March 8th – 4th Grade Design PLC 2:30 – 3:25 p.m.

After School Tutorials until 4:20 p.m.

March 9th – 5th Grade Design PLC 2:30 – 3:25 p.m.

Happy Friday – Release for Spring Break at 3:30 p.m.

March 12th - 16th - SPRING BREAK

March 19th – After School Tutorials until 4:20 p.m.

March 20th - TELPAS Testing

H.I.S. Faculty Meeting – SciLearning Training for ELAR teachers at 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. in the Library

March 21st – TELPAS Testing

## After School Tutorials until 4:20 p.m. March 23<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Benchmark

Texas, This is Your Life, 4<sup>th</sup> grade musical at 6:00 p.m. in the H.I.S. Cafeteria March 26<sup>th</sup> – GATE Parent Meeting 5:15 – 6:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria March 27<sup>th</sup> – H.I.S. Faculty Meeting in the Library 3:45 p.m.

March 28<sup>th</sup> – TELPAS Rater Party 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. in the H.I.S. Library March 30<sup>th</sup> – NO SCHOOL – School Holiday

## Enrollment for 2017-2018:

3rd: 141

4th: 152

5th: 154

Total: 447

HIS would like to thank you for all you do for our campus and district! GO EAGLES!