



# Center School

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**"WHERE KIDS ARE THE CENTER OF OUR ATTENTION!"**

## *February Newsletter*

Dear Center School Families,

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the school year. Typically, the month of February in an elementary school is bustling with excitement, energy, and activities. Some of these activities include the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School celebration and Groundhog Day and the hopes of a quick end to winter and early welcome to spring, and assemblies. However, what is most inspiring about this time of year is the transformation that begins to take shape within our classrooms and with our students. The hard work of our students and teachers is coming together. Our kindergartners begin to resemble first graders; our first graders begin to resemble second graders.... It is truly inspiring and rewarding to watch our students succeed.

I would like to thank our PTO for organizing and supporting our cultural enrichment assemblies at Center School. In January, we welcomed Craig Norton to Center School. Mr. Norton led students on a drumming tour of the world engaging students in a school-wide performance. This month we welcome John Marshall and Mark Ingram to Center School. John, Mark, and our own Mr. Parker will engage our students by teaching them about the percussion instruments around the world. Our *Way to Grow* evening workshop was a success. Our preschool team hosted close to 40 families and shared with them the many wonderful aspects that our preschool program has to offer. This month we will begin a series of workshops titled *Ready, Set, Grow*. This program provides parents and prospective kindergartners the opportunity to meet our kindergarten team and participate in engaging workshops that highlight components of our kindergarten program. More information can be found on our school website.

This year Center School students, staff, and families have been working together on promoting good character. As part of our Character Education Program, *Keys to Good Character*, students will continue to learn about empathy during the month of February. At Center School we have defined empathy as: showing kindness and consideration, respecting the feelings of others, and helping those in need.

Movement and exercise are important for our students. We will continue to have outdoor recess when the weather permits. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the colder temperatures and any inclement weather we may experience. As always, I welcome your feedback and collaboration in making our community and school safe for students, safe for families, and safe for staff. Thank you again for your support, patience, and cooperation in adhering to our arrival and dismissal procedures and continuing to make these busy times of the day safe for our students!

Finally, thank you again for all your support in making Center School a great place to learn and grow. I strongly believe when we engage in purposeful collaboration, while keeping students at the *center* of our collaboration, we will continue to move forward in a positive and productive direction that will best support *all* our students.

Warmest Regards,

Abe Ammary, Principal