

## The Journey Continues

August 17, 2018

Quote for the week: “Respect yourself if you would have others respect you.”—Gracian

Over the years I have served as Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent, I have written updates regularly. I did not do so last year and a very nice colleague told me she would like to see this started again. So...here is a start and we will see how it goes.

This week MPV Schools kicked off its school year in amazing fashion with a higher number of students than recent years. We had 391 students attend our first day of classes. We had 440 on Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup>. This is an 13% increase over the last three years. I am so excited about our growth because it means all of you are doing good work!

Your work this summer has been inspiring -- thoughtful, caring, student focused, smart, and fun! I have noticed all the professional development in specific areas to help meet our students' needs. I am particularly excited that we are developing a system to work with the Social Emotional Learning of our students. We are teaching a growth mindset which will help our students all through their lives. When the roller-coaster ride of the upcoming school year gets you down, recall the hopes and dreams of this past summer.

I usually get a good chuckle when I tell the story of the perfect school: It's the school where students haven't shown up yet. While I still think it's pretty funny, I have to amend the statement. **The perfect school is the one with all the kids present** -- with all of their issues, drama, attitudes, insights, passion, and energy. "We all move closer to perfection [because] the students have arrived!" As I said the other day, we may never reach Utopia here on this earth, but I believe we must search for it...our kids deserve our positive efforts!

Remember, when it gets tough, don't blame the students. Our responsibility is to figure out which strategy will work with each student, because everyone comes with a different, compelling story. We are trying to change history, and although it won't be easy, it will be rewarding. When it gets really tough, try to envision the students they are becoming, not the students they are at that moment.

Remember, don't blame yourself. Until you develop a personal connection with a student (and even then), as a very wise mentor of mine once said, "You are every teacher they have ever had." Look for help and support from your colleagues -- we have a collective responsibility to serve each other as well as the students. You are not alone.

Also, we work to make a difference in the lives of every student we meet; however, every student may not succeed at the level we may wish, but this doesn't mean we can give up on kids; it reminds us not to blame ourselves when we can't reach a student. Often, the life lessons we teach are not realized until the students are ready to learn them -- years after they have left your classroom.

Remember to

- laugh often.
- cry when you need to.
- have fun.
- be inspired.
- make a positive difference.
- have a great year, and enjoy the ride.

I hope you will scroll through to see the photos. If you ever have anything you would like for everyone to see, just send it to me and I include it in my semi-regular updates.

All the best,  
Dr. Myers

High School Bulletin:



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

Mon. 20<sup>th</sup> : Regular Day

Tues. 21<sup>st</sup> : Volleyball teams will play at Lavaca starting at 4:30

Wed. 22<sup>nd</sup> : Regular Day

Thurs. 23<sup>rd</sup> : School/sr. tux & drape pictures; Volleyball teams will play Ozark here starting at 4:30

Fri. 24<sup>th</sup> : Regular Day

Please scroll down for photos.

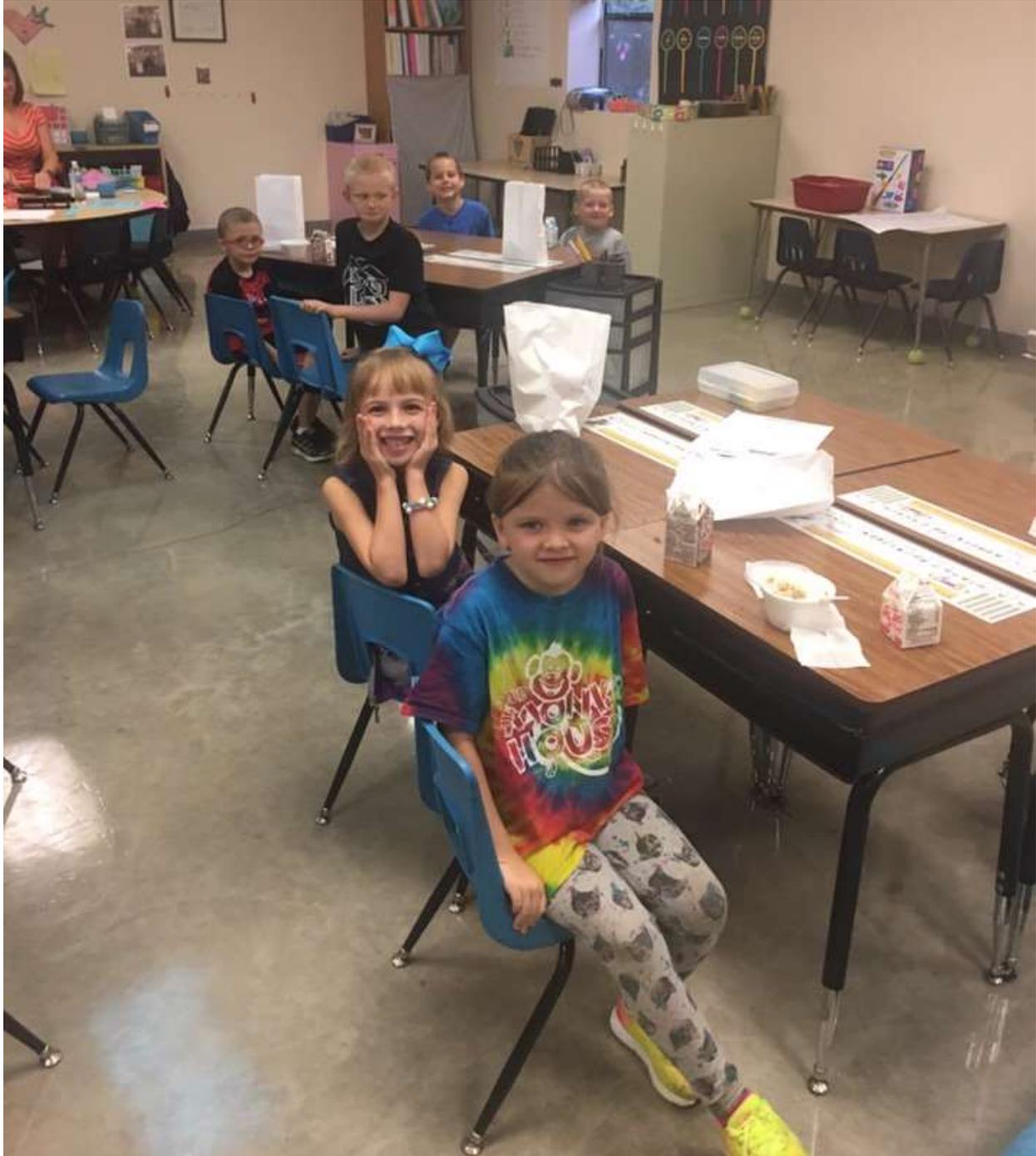


I don't know these two! ☺ They do have beautiful smiles and look ready to take great care of children! Thanks Miss Freeman and Mrs. Chanthavy!



Breakfast in the classroom above and yours truly below.





Above is breakfast in the classroom. Below is Officer Parette as he speaks to Kindergarten class.





Already excited to read!



Q-Ball in Mrs. McHaffie's class.



Science in Mrs. Humphrey's class.

Please find the MPV Education Foundation Donor Card below. Consider giving just 2 dollars per month (\$24 a year) through payroll deduction to help fund scholarships and teacher grants.

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