

Superintendent Update: November 2, 2018

Quote for the week: “If happiness has not her seat... And center in the breast, We may be wise or rich or great, But never can be blest.”—Robert Burns

3 Simple Ways To Cultivate Workplace Happiness

What does happiness mean to an employee? Why does it matter to the success of our school?

To some, it means job security and minimal school politics, or the level of motivation one has that pushes him/her to work every day. To others, it could mean job satisfaction, the ability to feel like one has contributed to a bigger purpose at work.

If this is how employees define happiness, how then does that correlate with the success of a business? When employees are happy, they are motivated to work harder – resulting in higher productivity, which in turn helps develop a positive culture and climate for learning.

Happiness has large and positive causal effects on productivity. Positive emotions appear to invigorate human beings.”



How then can we build a happier workforce?

Here are three ways.

1. Show each other that we care

Employees feel happier when colleagues take the time to ask them about their lives or even remember details about their families and activities.

That doesn't mean one has to spend hours during the school week making conversation. Rather, a simple "How are you?" or "How are the kids?" would suffice in making one feel cared for and remembered.

2. Be flexible

Today's workforce generations are big on the need for flexibility. This actually allows employees to have more control over their work-life balance. Based on a study conducted on the Fortune 500 companies, it also ensures employees are less prone to burnout.

It is unfair to expect employees to perform better if they are unable to spend quality time with their families or refresh their minds after long hours of work. Hence, to create greater productivity among employees, it's essential to allow them to maintain a positive work-life balance. For teachers, this means do our best not to ask too much outside of the school day as much as is possible. With our after school tutoring, some employees work longer hours and that can drain the energy for sure. Whatever we can do to have life outside the school house with our families, friends and spiritual relationships definitely will give us balance.

3. Show gratitude

The main reason most employees quit their jobs is because they feel unappreciated. We have all heard the quote which says, (I paraphrase) "people will not always remember what you knew, but they will always remember how you make them feel." Let's do our best to make people feel worthy...especially each other and our children. We just don't have employees or children deliberately trying to make our day a bad one in most cases...so let's lift people up.

Simple gestures, such as saying thank you or even giving credit where it is due, will go a long way in creating a workforce that feels valued. Until we learn to be happier for our colleagues being successful than we are for ourselves, we have not arrived. Selflessness and celebrating others' successes will pay off ten-fold.

As American writer William Arthur Ward once said, “Gratitude can transform common days into Thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.”

Conclusion

Maybe it’s time to reassess priorities and ensure that our children’s and colleagues’ happiness is taken into account for the benefit of all shareholders and stakeholders.

How bad can it be if there’s a possibility of student success and employee happiness?

News for the week:

We had a very informative MPV Education Foundation meeting on Monday, October 29th. Coach Edwards, Coach Ferguson, and Coach Percy introduced their teams to the Foundation Board of Directors.

The following student-athletes spoke to the crowd about our teams and the season at hand: Emily Fowler for Girls Basketball, Noah Cagle for Boys Basketball and Faith Stepusin for Volleyball.

The photos of Faith also represent her receiving the award of Homecoming Queen. Her escort was Rick Reeves.



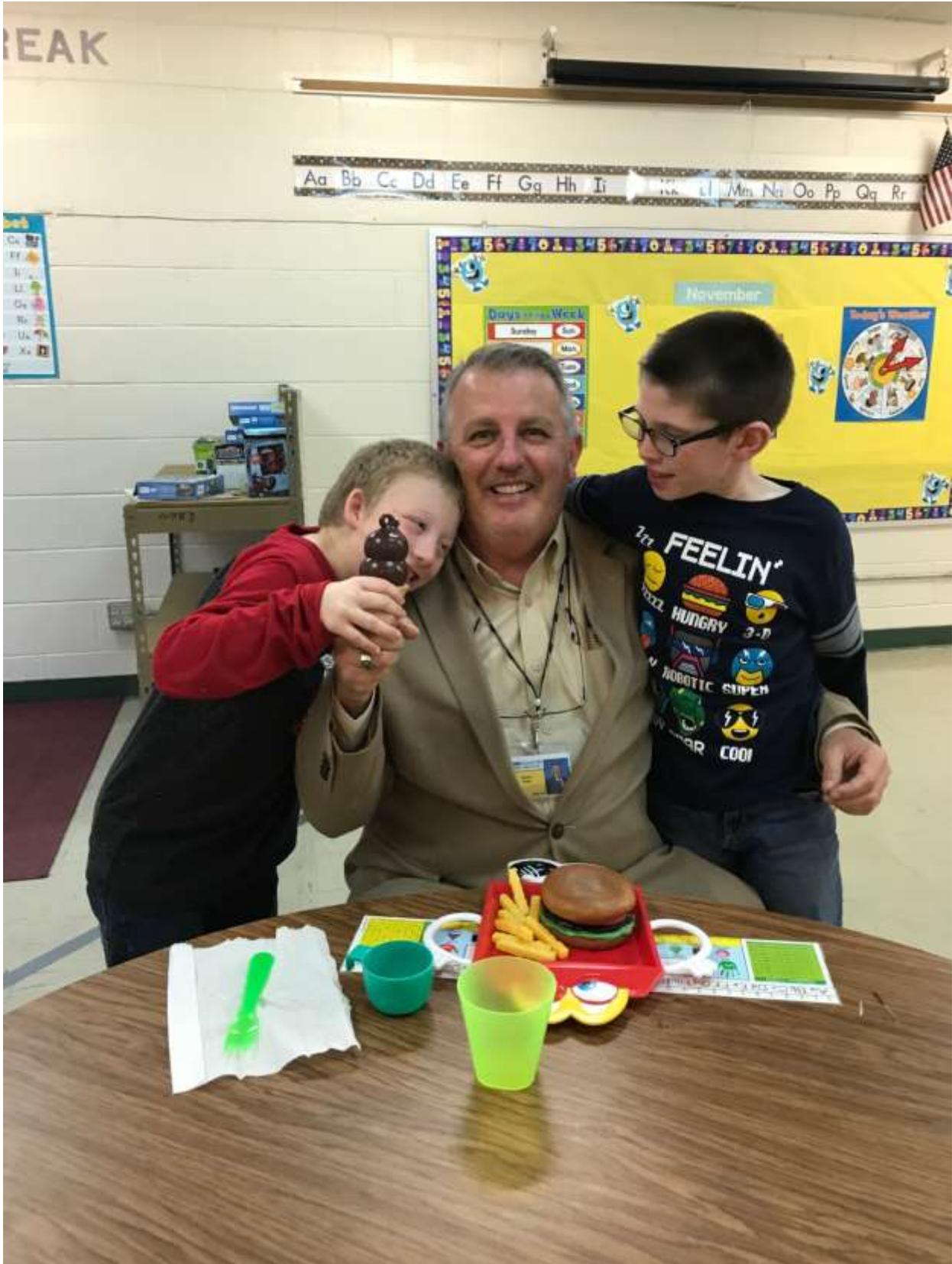








Mrs. Fields created a canvas work of our school Mascots...the Jacket and the Hornet. This will go on display at the educational cooperative located in Branch, Arkansas. Thanks Mrs. Fields!



Logan and Justin helping Mr. Fisher with his Pleasant View McDonald's order!