

April & May's Glimpse of Guidance

Welcome to this month's glimpse of guidance! I am combining both April and May since so much is going on in these two months in the Guidance classroom, and I will be gone for June.

My guess is that most of you are aware that I am pregnant, and due later in May. My last day here this spring will be Friday May 15th, (as long as baby cooperates!) and beginning on Monday May 18th Mrs. Shannon Matheis will be substituting in my classroom. Please know that she will not be teaching the students any human growth and development. I am hoping that by the time I am on maternity leave, we have covered the pertinent topics. (In grades 6 & 8 Mrs. Shumaker plans to cover things as well in Religion Class). Mrs. Matheis will be playing games with the students and talking about feeling good about ourselves and how complimenting and being kind to one another are great ways to improve self-esteem. She will be here through the first week of June, but please know she will not be here for office hours or to work on any problems in the small problem box. The students are aware of this, and know to talk with other teachers or with you!

The next four weeks are going to be very busy in the Guidance room. We are fortunate to have Lieutenant Stefanski coming in to talk with grades 5 – 8. He will be talking with 5th grade about smoking and the many dangers involved, with 6th grade he will be discussing inhalants, and again addressing the dangers and impact that such serious drugs can have on a person and his/her family and friends. With the 7th grade he will be discussing internet safety, and with the 8th grade he will be coming in for two class periods, the first to discuss sexual harassment, and the second to discuss drugs and alcohol. Along these same lines, human growth and development has started for students in grades 4th – 8th.

In addition to Lt. Stefanski, and our HG&D, students in all grades will be discussing different feelings along with self-esteem. We are talking a lot about

how our self-esteem can be impacted by little things as well as big things. One day we may feel very happy and upbeat, and have a positive outlook, and the very next day things may have changed that cause us to feel down about ourselves. It is important for the students to understand these changes and be able to work on feeling good about who we are on the inside! Every single one of us has unique and special qualities that we share with one another in our everyday lives. It's essential for our students to be able to recognize these!

Students in the junior high will also be voting for the Faith in Action award. This award is handed out every spring at the awards assembly. The students in grades 6-8 vote for one girl in their grade, and one boy who they feel has shown their faith through their actions this year. I really like this award because it is not teachers who vote for the students, it is their classmates who see these students every day all day long, and truly vote for someone who they feel goes out of their way no matter what the situation, to show their faith.

Our 8th grade is leaving for their yearly South Dakota trip on May 18th, obviously I will not be joining them this year, but I know they will have an amazing trip. Please remember to bring in any hygiene products, lightly used closed and unscented candles for the students to take to the Native American Reservation! This is the last “glimpse” of Guidance for this school year. I hope that you all have a safe and restful remainder of the year and summer.

Thanks! Mrs. Stewart ☺