



# Fort Report

November, 2019



November has a tendency to reveal a very different picture of our students and largely because of assessments and parent conferences. Student assessment is a critical aspect of the teaching and learning process. By now assessment data has been analyzed and individualized approaches to instruction are in place. These individualized approaches may result in some students receiving supplemental reading instruction, engaging in a “walk to learn model” or doubling up on focus areas during RtI. We gather and analyze data and student performance on a regular basis in many core content areas thus changes in the approach to instruction can occur frequently as well. Regardless of what approach is used, you can be sure it targets the unique and frequently changing needs of your learner.

Parent conferences have given us an opportunity to exchange information about student engagement, work habits and preferred topics and content areas. As importantly, home-based work habits and

structures also influence our classroom practice. With assessment data that reveals true student performance and input from families shared, our goals for students should be characterized by high standards and high expectations.

Given the number of professional development days our school calendar features it seems appropriate that you know how it is spent. Much of our professional development this year is focused on curriculum programs and the assessment practices and supplemental learning opportunities included in them. Our professional development this year is focused on 3 main areas: iReady (our new 1st and 2nd grade math curriculum), science (where we are creating curriculum and assessments), and data gathering/analysis of SMART Student and SMART Learner data (to begin the process of establishing a tiered system of response). Professional development and common planning time has also been used to unpack standards, digest data generated and navigate new programs so teachers can personalize them to the unique needs of students.

October featured our first SMART assembly. SMART assemblies are held monthly and are one of the few times all students come together for a common approach to discussing and interacting with the elements of our SMART Plan. Music, videos and skits reinforce elements of the plan and help us highlight and demonstrate appropriate choices to manage conflict and conduct ourselves as friends and learners. As has been noted in the past, SMART students are selected weekly from each classroom. Our monthly assembly culminates with a randomly selected golden ticket winner from each classroom. It is heart-warming to see how excited the students get for one another...the enthusiastic cheering is awesome! In November, we will have an added treat when the WHS drama dept. performs a few skits depicting SMART choices and actions.

Thanksgiving ushers in a festive but for some challenging time of the year. If your family is in need of any support, please don't hesitate to let me know. Your needs will be kept confidential. We are fortunate to have many very caring and giving families and an amazingly thoughtful and generous PTO who would like to assist you.

Under "housekeeping" items, the following are worth noting:

~ You can likely imagine the volume of clothing and lunch bags we find. These items are brought to the lost and found and in a short period of time begin to take up lots of space. We generally donate unclaimed lost and found items items about 3 times a year, the first one being just before Thanksgiving. If your child is missing anything, please make it a point to stop in and check the lost and found by November 25th in anticipation of the scheduled November 26 donation date.

At this season of thankfulness and celebration, please accept my best and sincere wishes for a wonderful and festive holiday season.Your partner in education...

Your partner in education,  
*Ms. Pearson*



## Shout OUTS!

Another thank you to the PTO for a fun and entertaining Spooky Social.

This month's SMART students include:

Kindergarten: Zachary E., Zendaya M., Kierra H., Jake T., Bode B., Brayden B., Harley G., Margaret D., Abraham Q., Nico A., Hailey M., Gabi R., Luke H., Camillo B., Tarquin D., Lorenzo C., Sean V., Alia M., Giovanni B., Jiavanna C., Collin G., Alessandra F., Yaser Z., Beia K., Shaine S., Owen M., Alessandra G., Emma K.

1st Grade: Isaac P., Anthony D., Aine T., Michael M., Makayla K., Alara R., Ethan V., Alexia B., Christian D., Joseph L., Abigail R., Marianna W., Daniel E., Danielly P., John W., Violet D., Devyn D., Millie M., Ethan S., Autumn S., Landon G., Danate P., Penny S., Madison S., Sophie C., Matthew B., Amina I., Matthew B.

2nd Grade: Olivia B., Eli T., Michael O., Stella C., Jacelyn G., Samantha L., Celine L., Veronica H., Maureen B., Leo M., Ryan N., Ayron B., Lola F., Michael M., Jimena S., Aja J., Richard V., James S., Pedro E., Audra C., Johnathan G., Izabella D., Julian C., Brandon H., Orlaith J., Ralph D., Razan H., Lilah L.



Early Release Days: November 27 (Please see calendar for early release times.)

No School Days: November 5, 11, 28, 29

CLOTHING DRIVE WHS...CLICK HERE  
11/4-11/11

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