



SPARTAN NEWS - November 2018

Dear Seven Oak Families,

The second quarter is here! We are in the middle of a busy first semester, with lots of work ahead, the holidays in the not too distant future, etc. This can be an exciting time of the year for some, but can be stressful and overwhelming for others. I learned a song back when I was in middle school that I still find helpful as an adult - thankfully you won't have to hear me sing it - but these are the words: "You've got to...Accentuate the positive, and...Eliminate the negative, and...Latch on to the affirmative...but don't mess with Mr. In-between." Our citizenship skill for this month is having a POSITIVE ATTITUDE. None of us can control what happens to us, but we can control how we respond, and starting each day with a positive attitude is a helpful mindset for learning!!

Gratitude is also welling up inside of me during this month of Thanksgiving for multiple reasons. First, for this entire Seven Oak community - for all of our amazing students, our positive and supportive staff, and all of you - our wonderful families, who are partners with us in educating your children - Thank you! Second, I had the opportunity recently to attend the National Summit for Courageous Conversations with a few other staff members from our district. This was a powerful learning experience in becoming a more racially conscious individual and in understanding the impact that race has on the experience of all of our students; and additionally, a good reminder of our continued commitment to educational equity - recognizing institutional barriers and creating access and opportunities that benefit each of our students here at Seven Oak. A third reason to be thankful - we now have a school counseling team! Beth Seagrave has joined Laura Martin, so we now have 2 school counselors to address the academic, personal/social, and college/career needs of all of our students! Mrs. Seagrave will be serving students with last names A-L, while Mrs. Martin will be serving students with last names M-Z. Please feel free to reach out to your student's school counselor to help ensure a successful journey through middle school (beth.seagrave@lebanon.k12.or.us; laura.martin@lebanon.k12.or.us); and please join us in welcoming Mrs. Seagrave to our staff!

Finally, we want to hear from you! Now that the 1st quarter is in the books, we would like to reflect on how the school year is going thus far and get some feedback from all of our stakeholders. We have sent out three separate fall climate surveys - one to students, one to staff, and one to our parents/guardians. Please take a few minutes to complete this anonymous Parent/Guardian survey here: <https://goo.gl/forms/1eooWKQM8x7QTvec2>, and help us to continue to improve your child's education - we really appreciate it! The survey window closes on Tuesday, November 13th.

Additional announcements / important dates

- **Monday, November 12th** - No School - Veterans Day
- **Tuesday, November 13th** - Window for Fall Climate Survey for Parents/Guardians closes
- **Wednesday, November 21st - Friday November 23rd** - No School - Thanksgiving Break
- **Tuesday, December 6th** - Parent Teacher Committee Meeting @ 6:30p
- **December 24th - January 6th** - No School - Winter Break

Grateful for all of you - Let's go SPARTANS!!