



THE PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

"The cost of greatness is RESPONSIBILITY."

--Winston Churchill

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Culture of Responsibility

Our school year is off to a successful start. With our focus shifting from a Culture of Error to a Culture of Responsibility, we are embracing the opportunity we have to provide our scholars chances to become responsible. A recent Love and Logic article asks, "What is your job as a great parent or teacher?" many respond with "To raise or help create respectful and responsible children". Have you ever considered that it's not your job to create responsible kids? Our job is to consistently do the things that give kids an opportunity to become successful. (Dr. Charles Fay)

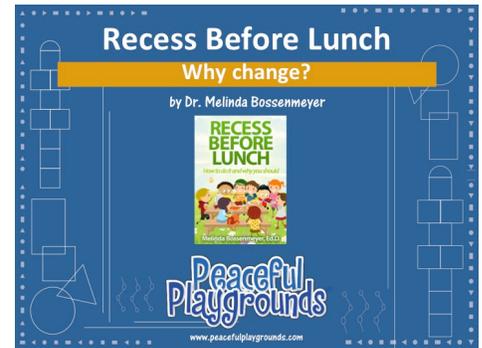
A Culture of Responsibility provides every member of our team {*teachers, staff, parents and scholars*} opportunities to lead, to make change, to step up, to step in, to take ownership, to make a connection, to improve something, to create something, to give gifts and "The greatest gift we can give our children are the roots of **responsibility** and the wings of independence" (Denis Waitley).

- Mrs. Douglass

Stepping It Up and Changing It Up

Can something as simple as the timing of recess make a difference in a child's health and behavior?

This year we made an adjustment to our lunchtime schedule. After learning about the success many schools in Arizona, and across the country, are having by switching to a "Play then Eat" schedule, we felt there was value in making this change. Our teachers and support staff have put a lot of planning and preparation into making this process efficient and intentional.



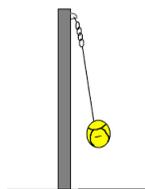
Why did we make this change?

With the previous eat then play schedule, we noticed scholars would enter the lunchroom high in energy but they would have difficulty remaining seated to eat; scholars would eat quickly and/or waste food in a rush to play; there were frequent visits to the nurse with stomach aches from playing after eating; as well as increased difficulty transitioning from play back into the classroom to learn.

What are the benefits of Play then Eat?

- Scholars return to the classroom calmer and ready to learn
- Going inside to eat after outdoor play gives them a cool-down period before returning to class
- More relaxed eating environment
- Scholars eat more
- Less food is wasted
- Significant decline in scholars feeling ill after lunch
- Significant decline in nurse visits
- Increase in academic time

As with anything, there are positives and negatives that come with change. If the benefits we anticipate seeing are not reflecting positive changes for our scholars, we will reassess and adjust. We appreciate the support we receive from our team, teachers, staff and parents who trust and support us, as we continue stepping up and changing up what we do for our scholars.



Drop Off and Pick Up

Help, I'm not sure what to do!

Picking up a 4th or 5th grade scholar?

- ✓ Enter from the east (closer to Cotton Ln.)

Picking up a K-3rd or OI scholar?

- ✓ Enter from the west (closer to Citrus)

Remember that all procedures in place are for the safety of all scholars not for the convenience of the individual.

Drop Off and Pick Up

I got this, but what can I improve on?

- ✓ **Do not arrive for pick-up prior to 4:00.**
- ✓ **Do not pull into the drive lanes prior to 4:00...**doing so blocks the lanes for emergency vehicles.
- ✓ **Volunteer to help!!** If you would like to help with the flow of traffic, we have extra vests and would love to have parents jump in to help. Inquire in the office if interested.

Patriot Day

You are invited to the
Odyssey Preparatory Academy's
**PATRIOT
DAY**

Thursday, September 8th
7:30 AM

The Odyssey Preparatory Academy
Goodyear Campus
17532 W. Harrison Street
Goodyear, AZ

Meet at the flagpole for a time of reflection and remembrance while we honor the first responders, military, and veterans who serve our community and country.

Interpreting Your Child's Gradebook

Parent Night
Thursday, September 8th
6PM @ Sienna Hills

Please join our Founders and K-5 Administrators to learn about our shift in grading and reporting on your child's academic and --- progress.

Scholars will no longer receive letter grades on their report card. If this is something you are interested in understanding, join us next Thursday.

We want to be sure we are covering the topics and answering the questions you have. Please complete this survey prior to attending:

[Parent Survey](#)

Patriot Day
Ceremony

Thursday, September 8th at 7:30 AM

Meet at the flagpole for a time of reflection and remembrance while we honor the first responders, military, and veterans who serve our community and country.

Pay \$1 to be Patriotic
All proceeds will benefit the 100 Club of Arizona

Kindergarten & 1st – Blue Shirts
2nd & 3rd – White Shirts
4th & 5th – Red Shirts

Patriotic accessories encouraged.
Please wear uniform shorts and tennis shoes.