



Cougar Chronicles

Principal-Parent

Newsletter

January 30 – February 3, 2017

The Function of Education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education. –Martin Luther King

Parent Pointers Communicating With the School Year-Round

- ▶ Stay attuned to your child's academic accomplishments on a weekly basis. Praise those accomplishments appropriately.
- ▶ Communicate with the school regularly. When you have a concern or question, write a note, or email or phone the teacher. *We need you on our team!*
- ▶ Think ahead: at the end of the school year, schedule a meeting to discuss with the teacher your child's successes and challenges.

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Attendance & Working Hard

It will come as no surprise to anyone that researchers have identified key behaviors of students that directly correlate to being successful in high school and beyond. Two of those behaviors are good attendance and "grit". Students that attend school regularly (especially during the spring semester and work hard (showing grit) even when a task is hard do better in school, are happier, and more confident in life. Teachers and parents must work together to provide the right amount of challenge or rigor so that the brain can retain important information and grow (similar to muscles and working out). Both teachers and parents must allow students to struggle and develop solutions to problems on their own. Teachers and parents must support students and encourage them to never give up!!!

Save the Date

Kerr Middle School will be having its [annual award ceremonies](#) on May 19th. The sixth grade ceremony will be at 1:30 pm; the seventh grade ceremony will be at 2:45 pm; and the eighth grade ceremony will be at 6:00 pm in the Pit. The eighth grade dance will follow the award ceremony starting at 7:00 pm and ending at 9:00 pm. Further details will be shared about what awards will be given along with the criteria for each. Additionally, more information will be sent about the 8th grade Dance (specifically dress code). We invite family members and friends to attend this special occasion.

BISD Choice Night

The Burleson Independent School District will host Choice Night on February 16, 2017 from 6-8 pm at Centennial H.S. Students and parents will have the opportunity to get a plethora of information on the various choices the students of BISD have. Families can get more information on The REALM (Rigorous Educational Arcade Learning Model) which is a school within a school right here at Kerr Middle School. Families can get more information on STEAM Middle School, the Burleson Collegiate High School, Academy of Arts @ Bransom, Academy of Leadership and Technology @ Mound, and the Stribling STEAM Academy. Additionally students and parents can see what fine arts programs and electives are offered at the high school in addition to seeing various performance from multiple schools. Come out on February 16th and see all the amazing choices Burleson ISD has to offer its community!!! I LOVE BURLESON ISD!!!

STAAR is Fast Approaching

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) assessments will begin at the end of March. 7th graders will take the Writing STAAR on March 28th. 8th graders will take the Reading STAAR on March 29th & the Math STAAR on March 30th. Teachers and students are focused on challenging instruction and learning. Cougar Pride!!!