



From the desk of Upper School Principal – St. Claire Adriaan

November Board Report

Testing:

Information Resources: 4th and 5th grade students took their 1st Information Resources Exam.

4th grade: 59% Average

5th grade: 84% Average

Using Information Resources (LEAP/iLEAP)

On this part of the test, students will be given a packet of information resources and will answer a series of 10 multiple choice and short-answer items requiring use of the material. Keep in mind that students are NOT required to read each of the information resources in detail. They will only be *skimming* the material in order to be able to find the material necessary to answer the questions.

1. Articles from encyclopedias, magazines, newspapers, or textbooks)
2. Parts of books (table of contents, index)
3. Visual Aids (maps, graphs, tables, charts, illustrations, schedules, diagrams)
4. Computer Information (such as a picture of a screen from an online catalog.

Teacher Observations and Quarter 2 Goal Setting: 4th and 5th grade teachers all had one on one meetings with the administration where they received feedback on their Quarter 1 performance and discussed their goals for Quarter 2. Teachers also set goals for Benchmark 2, identified areas of growth and how to achieve their goals for student achievement, professional growth and improving school culture.

Report Card Conferences: We just completed a very successful round of 1st Quarter Report Card conferences. 89% of 4th and 5th grade families met with their children's teachers. Ms. Kusmirek and Ms. Kushner had 100% of their families pick up report cards.

Warren Easton Science Buddies: We have partnered with Warren Easton for a Science Buddies Program. The High school students will volunteer in tow classes on a bi-weekly basis, teaching lessons, performing experiments and being big brothers and sisters to our students.

Junior Achievement: 4th and 5th grade Falcons will be participating in different 6 week courses. Our 4th graders will be participating in “More than money” which teaches students about earning, spending, sharing and saving money. 5th graders will be participating in “our Region” which introduces the relationship between natural, human and capital resources found in our region that produces goods and services for consumers. All classes are volunteer- led and directly attached to Louisiana State Standards.

LSU –Agcenter: 4-H Club: We have partnered with 4-H to create a School Chapter at SPA. The main focus is young people and adults come together to do things that help youth with a slogan “students will learn by doing,” this directly supports our service learning initiative and focus at our school.

Projects

- Student Council to promote leadership and citizenship
- Civic Engagement
- Gardening Group
- Character Education Program
- Parent Club with parenting classes
- Participation in Youth Wetlands Week

Volunteers come in once a month for each of these segments and our teachers are provided with supplemental lesson plans to support each unit. All units are aligned to Louisiana State Standards.

Fire Safety: Fireman Greg Davis presented a workshop to our Falcons on Fire Safety at Town Hall on Friday as part of Fire Safety week.

Peer Tutoring: Our underlying belief is that peer tutoring will have a powerful impact on our students academically and serve as motivation to excel. 5th grade students are paired with higher performing student to help complete their homework and work on other material covered during the day at 4.15pm twice a week.

Saturday School: LEAP/iLEAP preparation will start after Benchmark 2. Once again we are partnered with “The New Orleans South African Connection” to offer this Academic and Arts Program. Until the end of the year students will receive 1 hour of LEAP preparation from our teachers and 2 hours of extra-curricular art programs. Starting in January our students will receive 2 hours of LEAP/iLEAP preparation instruction and 1 hour of extra-curricular art instruction. We are in the process of securing 1 school bus for Saturday School funded by the program.