

Principal's Report

October 26, 2017

1. October is a very busy month! We celebrated Thanksgiving, had PCCE Teacher's Convention and Parent Teacher Conferences just occurred, and we have a PD Day on November 1st. With that being said, I feel we have really come together as a staff. You can tell there is trust, respect and camaraderie within the staff dynamic.

2. PCCE Convention: This is a highlight for our staff as it's such a great opportunity for spiritual renewal, professional growth, networking and connecting with colleagues.

Our Keynote speaker this year was Skye Jethani. Skye did a wonderful job speaking to us on how we view Jesus. Do we see the world as Jesus calls us, or as Peter first saw the world. We had the pleasure of dining with him on the Thursday night as well. Besides Skye, there were also many great workshops/sessions for our teachers to attend including some unique to how Covenant has helped grow TtT across North America! I also presented an "EdTalk" on FLEx activities; specifically a CTF foods option called Culinary Christianity.

3. PD Day: We had a fantastic PD day on Oct. 6th. The morning we spent with Brian Doornenbal from PCCE who helped us work on our classroom storylines. Kyle and I spent some time in Red Deer working on this as well, and we have now introduced "storylines" into each of our offices. Kyle's is "Unashamed" while mine is "Every Story Whispers His Name". We have asked each teacher to implement a "commit to try" to have their storyline present in their classroom. The afternoon was spent working on Powerteacher Pro. This program is newly mandated by BlackGold to all divisions. Our Div II/III Teachers have been fairly familiar with it, although our Div I's are completely new to it.

4. Breakfast Program - BGRS has received a grant to create a Breakfast Program in each school. Covenant has been allotted \$6114 for our K-6 students. We have also received \$1510.48 from the Jason A Spicer Memorial Trust Fund, which was given to us last year to help supplement a student "food" program. We will use this to supplement the Junior High portion so we can offer to all our students.

5. Intrinsic vs. Extrinsic Motivators - As a staff we have looked at a variety of research surrounding the idea of extrinsic and intrinsic motivators. Extrinsic motivators include things like Class Dojo, stickers, etc, while intrinsic motivators are those that the students embody themselves, and that will do good. While we strive for all students to be intrinsically motivated, we know that this is not always the case. When extrinsic motivators are used to help create relationships and ownership within the classroom environment, and when the goals are achievable, they can be very positive for student learning.

6. MIPI/HLAT/DIBELS Benchmarks - This year, BGRS has put mandatory beginning of the year assessments in place to help teachers differentiate and individualize instruction based on the immediate needs of every child. These, although extra work for staff, have been very important to show our staff specific information about each student. The deadline from BGRS to administer all of these was Oct. 27, and we have now successfully completed this.