

September, 2018

"Work Hard Every Day...Every Day Work Hard"

## Upcoming Events

9/3

**No School—  
Labor Day**



9/10

**Picture Day**



9/11

**PTA  
Meeting  
Come join us!**

9/21

**Parents and  
Pastries 7 AM**



9/26

**Citizen/Student  
of the Month  
Luncheon**



9/28

**Fourth Grade—  
Wagon's Ho**



# Coyote Courier



## From the Desk of Mr. Hopkins

Dear Purple Sage Community,

We are off and running already and it has been a wonderful start to the 2018-2019 school year. Thank you for all of your efforts in preparing your students for a successful first and second weeks. I am pleased with the low rate of tardiness so far and I encourage you to keep it up!

You should have noticed by now a new security procedure that we are utilizing concerning checking in if you visit the school. On the wall by Mrs. Schuler's window you will find an iPad in a black case. Please use this iPad to sign in and then our office will give you a visitor sticker. Once you are in the system you can download a QR code onto your phone and then you can simply scan it in to the iPad each time you visit. I also ask that you please make sure to sign out when you leave the school, thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Like last year, we will keep the double glass doors locked once school begins to allow for only one point of access to our hallways. We also have a crosswalk and I would ask that if you choose to walk over to pick up your students after school that you please park in the front lot and use that crosswalk. The pickup line is not a good place to cross and we keep traffic moving through as fast and as safely as we can. Security and safety remain one of my top priorities so I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

You will notice a series of assessments that your student(s) will be given this year to monitor their academic progress. Grades K-3 all across Idaho will use a program called iStation this year for the Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI.) This is an assessment that students will use Chromebooks to take and this will occur during computer lab time. All grades will once again take a series of iReady math assessments to help guide math instruction and grades 4 and 5 will utilize iReady for various reading and ELA assessments. Lastly, grades 3 through 5 will again take the ISAT assessment in the Spring for both math and ELA. Please know that these assessments are valuable tools that we will use to avoid any surprises concerning academic progress and will help us boost student achievement by allowing us to adjust instruction so that it is even more effective.

Please know that I am always willing to listen to your thoughts and concerns and I can be reached by email or phone or you can try to catch me in my office. Here is to a great school year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Hopkins

[mhopkins@msd134.org](mailto:mhopkins@msd134.org)

208-455-1148

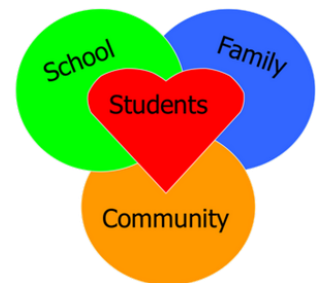
## Counselor's Den—Mrs. Fogg

Welcome back to school. I would like to extend a special welcome to all of the new families at Purple Sage. We're glad you're here! I'm excited to begin my second year as the school counselor at Purple Sage.

I started teaching lessons in the fourth and fifth grades this week. My lessons have focused on rude and mean behavior versus bullying. It is my goal to have the students understand that while rude and mean behaviors are not acceptable behaviors at Purple Sage, there is a difference between rude, mean and bullying.. While I have just started these lessons in the classrooms, the students are beginning to understand that bullying is intentionally hurtful, repetitive and there is a real or perceived power imbalance.

As we move through this unit, I will shift my focus from understanding the difference, to what we do about it. Last year we introduced the concept of being an "upstander" instead of a bystander. While the fifth graders are familiar with this terminology, it is relatively new to the fourth graders. We will learn and practice various techniques to stand up for others.

One of the most important things that parents can do to assist with rude, mean and bullying behavior at school and beyond is to help your child develop resilience. In Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg, M.D.'s book, "Building Resilience in Children and Teens: Giving Kids Roots and Wings" he writes about the Seven C's that help children build resilience. The fact remains that we all face rude, mean and bullying behavior throughout our lives. But when we learn to become resilient the behavior has a much less detrimental effect on our well being.



The seven C's that Dr. Ginsburg talks about are:

- ◆ Competence: When we notice what young people are doing right and give them opportunities to develop important skills, they feel competent. We undermine competence when we don't allow young people to recover themselves after a fall.
- ◆ Confidence: Young people need confidence to be able to navigate the world, think outside the box, and recover from challenges.
- ◆ Connection: Connections with other people, schools, and communities offer young people the security that allows them to stand on their own and develop creative solutions.
- ◆ Character: Young people need a clear sense of right and wrong and a commitment to integrity.
- ◆ Contribution: Young people who contribute to the well-being of others will receive gratitude rather than condemnation. They will learn that contributing feels good and may therefore more easily turn to others, and do so without shame.
- ◆ Coping: Young people who possess a variety of healthy coping strategies will be less likely to turn to dangerous quick fixes when stressed.
- ◆ Control: Young people who understand privileges and respect are earned through demonstrated responsibility will learn to make wise choices and feel a sense of control.

I am looking forward to another school year working with the students and families of PSE.



\* Leana Dwyre—Assistant Principal    \* Kristyn Amy—First Grade Teacher    \* Tiffany Caagbay—Gifted/Talented Teacher

\* Angela Peterson—Paraprofessional    \* Stacey Leavitt-Wilson—Paraprofessional