

## *Principal's Updates!*

### *December*

- ❖ The staff at Wiley hopes that all of you have a wonderful and relaxing vacation! We will see all your children back here on **Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**!
- ❖ **Thursday, January 8, is early release day for all students. Monday January 19, is Martin Luther King Day and there will be no school.**
- ❖ We have changed the date: The Chili Cook-Off scheduled for Thursday, January 15, has been moved to Thursday, January 22. We have invited both Canterbury and Gearity families to this event. The judges for this event are Mr. Harrell and Ms. Miller and me. More information on this event will be sent out the first week in January.
- ❖ Please remind students that they should not be cutting through the Target parking lot as this poses a safety hazard for our students.
- ❖ The fundraiser was a huge success. We have over 20 students going on the Limo ride in January. These students all sold over 10 items. PTA will be able to support many community building events. Thank you again for all who participated.
- ❖ Second quarter and first semester ends on Friday, January 16. Report cards will be mailed out the following week.
- ❖ Starting the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in January we will have a new incentive called “**The Warrior List**”. Students will make this list by having grades of C’s or better, no office referrals, no more than three tardies, and by following our R.O.A.R. matrix (responsibility, organization, attendance and respect). Each month the students will be identified and put on the list. These students will receive ID badges on a lanyard with their names and pictures on them. These lanyards will allow the students who have received them the opportunity to have certain privileges. Some examples are:
  - When they are done eating they will be able to go to our game room.
  - They will be able to listen to their I-Pods when they are at lunch or on break.
  - They will be able to use the computer labs after their lunch.
  - There will be open gym before school and during 8<sup>th</sup> grade lunch.
  - The Media Center will be open to all students with a lanyard.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (with permission from their parents) will be able to go to Burger King for lunch twice a month. A teacher will supervise this.

As this program continues we will work with the students to determine other privileges that they would like to see added. Our goal is to recognize those students (the majority) who come to school everyday ready to learn. Our ultimate goal is to have EVERY student at Wiley on the Warrior List!

- ❖ **If you have any board games, card games, or electronic games that you would like to donate to our game room, please send them to the office. Any help would be greatly appreciated!**
- ❖ If you are the parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, there is still time to secure a spot for your child for the trip to Washington DC. We currently have 35 deposits and we are hoping for at least 50 more. Please send in a deposit as soon as possible to hold your spot. If you need more information please call the office at 371-7270.
- ❖ We have a display case in the front hall that is dedicated to the idea around “college readiness”. If you have any college items that you wouldn’t mind donating, we would love to have them. Donations may include t-shirts, mugs, glasses, stickers, key chains, etc. We would love to add these things to our display case.
- ❖ The week of February 9<sup>th</sup> is the scheduled date for our one to one roll-out of our Mac computers for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. More information will be coming to you those first couple weeks of January.
- ❖ Academically, we are continuing to focus on preparing our students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We are working at every grade level to increase our students’ ability to answer short answer and extended response questions. We want our students to be able to apply what they have learned in class at a higher level than just memorizing facts.
- ❖ Our art teacher, Heather Vokic, received two grants. One from Martha Holden Jennings and one from Reaching Heights. These grants will allow all of our students to create tiles for a mural that will be displayed permanently on a wall in our cafeteria. We are anticipating an unveiling of the final mural in April, but we will keep you posted. We are very proud of Ms. Vokic and all of her hard work for the students at Wiley.
- ❖ Attached you will find the first quarter list of all honor and merit roll award recipients. Our goal is to increase the list each quarter.

## **“We Are Wiley!”**

- ❖ **Reminder: Early Release day on Thursday, January 8!**
- ❖ **Upcoming Dates:**
  - Monday, January 5, we are back to school!
  - Friday, January 16, second quarter ends
  - Monday, January 19, MLK Day! No School.
  - Thursday, January 22, Chili Cook-Off and Grade 5 Parent Orientation 6:00 to 7:30 pm
  - February 25, Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences from 3:00 to 9:00 pm

**“Every Student, Every Day, Some Success, Some Way!”**

