



Dear Parents,

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Week three and a three day weekend to fuel the 4 days coming. Are you feeling the energy of this new year? So much is happening right now that it is hard to keep up!

The big event is this Thursday evening September 6 at 6:00 PM. We will be in the gymnasium to start for a 30 min general session. After that you will be dismissed to move to a classroom of your choice to meet with your child's teacher for 30 min. After that there is another teacher session for those who have more than one teacher to visit. Teachers will be around all night to talk and share the coming year and plans. Please be here at 6:00 pm for our general session, there is much to discuss and go over for a successful year.

September 11 at 2:00 pm we are having a wonderful dedication service for not only our new classroom but our Kindergarten room also. We know that the time might be difficult for some but if you can attend we welcome you to visit and talk with our leadership about our school and what it means to your child. There will be several leaders of SDA education as well as leaders from our local community, please if you can be here, we would love to see you.

This year we have heavily invested in the Saxon Math program for grades 3-8 I believe we will see significant gains in the coming years in our math scores. I just read a study performed in 2017, here is an excerpt.

"...A survey of more than 2,500 parents found that they generally rank math and science as lower in importance and relevance to their children's lives than reading. Moreover, 38 percent of parents, including half the fathers surveyed, agreed with the statement "Skills in math are mostly useful for those that have careers related to math, so average Americans do not have much need for math skills," according to the survey by the Overdeck and Simons foundations. "Nobody is proud to say, 'I can barely read,' but plenty of parents are proud to stand up and say, 'I can barely do math, I didn't grow up doing well in math, and my kid's not doing well in math; that's just the way it is,' " said Mike Steele, a math education professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee"

Math is so important and our attitudes about math matters. The article goes on...

"some evidence suggests early-math skills can be crucial to students' overall school careers. In a 2007 study, Greg Duncan, an economist and education professor at the University of California, Irvine, and his colleagues used six large-scale longitudinal studies of students to look at what most affected a student's long-term school outcomes. They found that a child's math ability at the start of kindergarten was the best predictor of his or her academic performance in 8th grade, even more than early-reading scores, attention, or social-emotional development. That held true regardless of gender, race, or family income."

We believe in education of the entire child. Math, Reading, Physical, Social, Emotional, and most of all Spiritual minds. Our teachers take great pride in having your child in our rooms.

God Bless as we enter week 3~
In Gratitude,

Stephen Stokes
Principal

