

Cougar Families,

Happy SPRING BREAK! I am hopeful for those of us staying in Chicago that the weather gives us a better feel for spring! However, I'm certain this will not stop us from enjoying a much needed and well-deserved break. Please take the time with our scholars to enjoy each and every moment. Put down the technology and engage with a book, a board game or a simple conversation. We may not be headed out of town, but that doesn't mean we cannot take our scholars on an adventure!

Speaking of an adventure, our Visionaries put on another incredible performance in recognition of Woman's History Month. We also had talented student performer at the Beverly Arts Center in the production of Disney's My Son Pinocchio Jr. this weekend. We now look forward to our FOC show Anne Jr. coming in June with nearly 60 Clissold scholars supporting this production! Congratulations to the entire cast and thank you to our amazing parents and staff for putting this in motion.

This past week finished with a ton of smiles as we honored our scholars and parents during our Bi-Monthly IB Learner Profile Acknowledgement. These smiles continued as we celebrated room 201 and 305 for the highest attendance rates for the first and second half of March. Both classes had over 98% attendance for the month and tossed pies at Mr. McNichols as the incentive and a function our mid-month challenge with Pi Day back on the 14<sup>th</sup>. We also had a large number of students win the CARE team raffles and take home many great prizes from new bikes to movie tickets. Congrats to all of our winners and every one of the scholars in the running for demonstrating kindness and our school expectations. Huge thank you for all of those who donated raffle items. The feeling in the building on Friday afternoon was electrifying!

As we drive toward the final stretch of the school year, please remember to stay informed and continue to advocate for our entire school community. Coming up in May will be the NWEA Assessment. This is assessment that determines our school report card. Your continued support is critical for the advancement of our scholars and a score that adequately and accurately reflects our incredible institution. Our school attendance rate is another major factor to our school report card. We need all of our scholars in school daily and on time. During this flu and sickness season we are looking forward to a floor to ceiling cleaning over this break and elevated attendance rates getting us back to 97%!

Finally, thank you to the entire Cougar community! We are so unbelievably fortunate to have such an involved and passionate Cougar family! Our mission states that we believe in the gift of every child to inspire and empower the future of our humanity. Clissold's partnership and passion for each of our scholar's and community allows us to continue "Climbing Higher!" Enjoy a wonderful and safe break!

Kindly,

Mr. McNichols