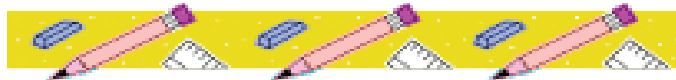




# THE PRINCIPAL'S PAD

NANCY LAWSON, PRINCIPAL



**Fisher Motto: Never Be Anything Less Than You Can Be!**

**Fisher Mission: To build a school community that instills in children a rigorous and joyful approach to learning.**

Both of these statements embody a similar message, don't they? Last week Fisher students and staff celebrated "College Week". Certainly, our first long-term goal for the children who attend Fisher is to make sure that our students graduate from high school. On September 23, we celebrated "Commit Not to Quit" (high school). We want our students to look forward to their high school experience at Wakeland. On that Wednesday, Wakeland football players and cheerleaders greeted students as they entered the building in the morning and then those high school students participated in the morning announcements.

Friday, during our assembly, Mrs. Cypert and I interviewed two Wakeland Honor Society students. The conversation was not rehearsed in any way. Caleb and Jocelyn repeated, in different words, that education needs to be every child's priority. Pieces of advice included: Make sure you study before you play; "Study, Study, School's My Buddy"; character is important; helping others is critical in order to have a fulfilled life. Caleb is a former Fisher student, being one of Ms. Wright's fourth grade students in her first year of teaching! Both Jocelyn and Caleb stated their life goals and where they want to attend college. I'm sure that every parent in the audience that day hopes that when their child(ren) are seniors they will be as articulate and goal-focused as those two young people. I just mentioned my desire that Caleb and Jocelyn talk to the students every Friday morning!

I often say to our children that "what you practice, you will become". Excellence is a habit. At Fisher, we have high expectations for our teachers, staff, and our students. We have always appreciated your partnership with us and your commitment that "school, indeed, comes first". Whenever your child struggles with homework, to master a skill, or just adjust to new expectations, remind him/her (and yourself) that these struggles are a normal part of the process of growing up and becoming responsible citizens and students. Of course, don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or an administrator if you have questions or concerns about your child's adjustment to, or experience at, Fisher!

We want learning to be fun. We want learning to be rigorous. Your children will be competing with an international community for jobs. Our goal is that your children's time at Fisher helps them learn how to maximize their potential – as a student and as a community member.

Thank you for your support of our PTA through the Boosterthon Fun Run and by joining PTA. Our PTA is amazing and supportive of all of our school's goals. Fisher Elementary is a "community", and it shows in everything we do!