



November 2019

Greetings Skyline Families,

And before you know it, it's already November! The school year moves at such a fast pace. It's always a nice opportunity to push pause and connect with all of you through our newsletter. I hope you are all doing well as we launch into a season of Thankfulness. I want each of you to know that we are incredibly thankful for our families, our students and the partnership we share together. It takes a village, and without you, we could never do all we can to make the impact we do for our kids!

I wanted to connect with you all this month around emergency drills here at school. Monthly, we are required to conduct an emergency drill here at school. Our drills change month to month with some that repeat throughout the year such as fire drills, and others that we practice just one time per year such as Shelter In Place. I want you all to know that we recognize that there are many emotions around the practicing of drills within schools today, and I want to take this opportunity to share our Skyline "Why" with you all.

We conduct safety drills for a variety of reasons: state requirements, school district requirements, and ultimately preparedness. And beyond all of the "have to's" our primary reason for practicing emergency drills is this: "to ensure students and staff are prepared to quickly make their way to safety in the event of an emergency situation." Here at school, we have a safety team that works hard to ensure that we have solid protocols in place, strong communication systems, and the most efficient practices. We must practice these protocols to know what to do if an emergency situation were ever to occur and we must create the space to practice these protocols with our students.

Throughout the year, we gradually move toward real preparedness with our drills and here's how. Early in the year or with each new drill, we provide the day and time to our staff that the drill will take place. We also provide or highlight with them any procedural updates or necessary information about the drill and ask that they discuss the drill in advance with our students. Then, we run the drill, and provide the staff and or students with any feedback we feel would be beneficial to know and understand or hold on to for future situations. We may also discuss these drill situations as a safety team to revamp protocols or work to increase efficiency the next time we practice that particular emergency situation.

As the year progresses, and once we have practiced the drill, we will move to only sharing with staff the day of the drill and if the drill will happen in the AM or PM of our school day. Later, we will eliminate sharing with staff when the drill will happen other than some communication such as “expect a lockdown drill to take place this week.”

When we know the day, time and type of drill we are having, we know so much. In order for us to be truly prepared and best equipped to know what to do in a true emergency situation, we must know the protocol to follow and how to keep ourselves and our students safe. This is why we practice. You can be assured that we do always tell our guest teachers if we are having a drill the day they are with us and our teachers and staff know that any time they need to be out of the building their sub plans should include where to find the emergency plans to review.

We also want to ensure that we are communicating with our families regarding our safety/emergency drills to allow you all to be able to talk with your kids about our upcoming drills, stay in the loop with our work in this area and know when we will be having a drill. You can expect to receive an email/text message from our school prior to the time we will be conducting a drill. This will allow you the opportunity to talk with your little one, remind your son/daughter of the importance of the drill and partner with us in this work. While we won't say specifically when exactly the drill will be, you will know that shortly, in the coming days, we will be having a drill and what drill we will be having.

We take our emergency preparedness work seriously for the safety of our students and all of our staff. We know these drills can be difficult and can create emotion in our students. We appreciate your support as we run these drills, practice these emergency situations and become as efficient as possible through these experiences and hope that this letter resonates with you all our “why” for this practice.

Skyline Families, thank you for your continued support of everything we do here at Skyline. We are an incredible school because of the children you all share with us and the support you give us. We're in this work together. I wish you a wonderful month of November. I am thankful to each of you for sharing your precious gifts with us, each and every one of our Skyline Explorers.

November Smiles,

Tori Thomas  
Principal



# November Events

November 7th- Picture Retakes

November 7th- Family Reading Night 6:30-8:00 PM

November 8th- Veterans Day Assembly

K-2 9:15-9:45 AM 3-5 10:00-10:30 AM

November 11th- Veteran's Day No School

November 13th- "Safari Reading Night"

Kindergarten and 1st grade 6:00-7:30 PM

November 14th- "Full Steam Ahead"

4th and 5th grade 5:00-6:00 PM

November 14th- Ice Skating Night 6:00-7:15 PM

November 19th- "Harvesting Math Skills"

2nd grade 6:00-7:00 PM

November 21st- Skyline PTA General Meeting

Skyline library 6:15-7:15 PM

November 27th- Early Dismissal at 12:30 PM

November 28-29 -Thanksgiving Break~No school