

Thursday Thoughts- August 30, 2018



Dear Families,

MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS/MEETINGS- This week we have been working on learning STEAM @ Tope's vision. We started the STEAM @ Tope vision a couple years ago. Our vision took form after a combined effort from students, parents and staff. Our vision helps create purpose, helps us define what success will look like and helps guide us for our future. It is what connects us all and brings us all together.

ENGAGE with confidence

EQUIP with knowledge

EMPOWER for lifelong learning and innovation

Students are making connections to the above vision. In addition, each class will design their own vision for their classroom.

ATTENDANCE FACTS-

Not only does attendance impact a child, but so do tardies! Students who are excessively late to school and/or picked up early miss a lot of academic content. They also report feeling disconnected from their peers. Imagine sitting in a theater and at the very end of the movie when you are about to see everything come together, you are asked to leave. It is even frustrating when you arrive late and miss the first 20 minutes of a movie!!! Students miss a lot when they are not in class. Help your child access full academic content and peer connections by getting them here on time and allowing them to stay the entire day.

PBL- Intermediate classes are working to outline a timeline for the first PBL unit. Project Based Learning is a BIG part of who we are as a STEAM school. It empowers our learners to engage as problem solving around an authentic problem in our community! POWERFUL STUFF!

STEAM- First grade through fourth grade students will access a new science curriculum called KnowAtom. We are fortunate to have this NGSS and STEM based tool to assist with student learning! For more information, you can preview <https://www.knowatom.com/> on our website!

CODING/ROBOTICS- All students (K-5) will learn CODING this year! All 4th and 5th graders will finish the year with a ROBOTICS unit. We are SUPER excited to have the capacity to roll this out!

SPECIALS SCHEDULE- We continue to adapt to our new blue and white schedule! Thank you for your flexibility! WE WANT ALL OF OUR LEARNERS TO HAVE EQUITY WITH TIME IN SPECIALS!

Create a beautiful life at home with your child,

Carrie Bessinger



IMPORTANT DATES

Sept 3rd- NO SCHOOL- LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Sept 4th - PTA MEETING 4:30 (Tuesday, due to Labor Day)

Sept 14th- PTA FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT (more info to come)

Sept 17th- NO SCHOOL- TEACHER PLAN DAY