

Dear Staff,

I had lunch in the teachers' lunchroom at the Jr./Sr. high last week, and Mr. Gray and I started talking about growing fall vegetables. He asked me if I planted turnips. I replied that I hadn't, and truthfully, I'm not sure I've actually ever eaten a turnip. Our conversation was enough for me to find turnip seeds and get them planted in my community garden plot on Saturday. I send out a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Gray in appreciation for teaching an old Tiger a new trick! I promise to split the crop with you if anything comes of it.

I did the homework this week I promised I would and



found out that Ms. Ward is the creator of the NWEA Dataopoly display at HES. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to her for creatively sending the message to students, staff and parents that learning progress is important here. It will be fun to watch the colored crayons move their way around the board!



Ms. Hokey and her staff welcomed quite a crowd into school this past week for the HES Bazaar! While the PTO had the library set up for the Book Fair, teachers and their students had stands set up through the front hall and throughout the cafeteria selling everything from cookie dough cupcakes (delicious!) to face painting. And while I succumbed to the cupcakes, I resisted face painting... I understand it was standing room only for Starlab with Mr. Catey. I had a chance to avoid the crowd and joined a class with Mr. Catey the following day. Honestly, Starlab has been around since I taught



fourth grade, but I was amazed at how they have updated the presentation. When I used it, the Starlab dome was made out of tree bark and the light source was a candle. Now, a parent told me they include videos projected on the domed surface. On Friday I could only sit on the floor in the dark hunched over for so long and had to make my escape before Mr. Catey and the lesson really got rolling!

Friday night's football game once again showed how far Mr. Snodgrass and his players have come. Friday's final score was 48-12 and keeps Hagerstown tied for the TEC lead. The outcome of this Friday's game against Centerville, at Centerville, will determine who will come



out top-ranked in the TEC in football. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Snodgrass and his staff and know they will be preparing the boys all through this week!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Coach Dale and his volleyball team for their win against Shenandoah on Thursday. The girls' team has an 18-1 (!) record for the season thus far coming off an equally impressive season last year! Go Tigers!



This past week, Mr. Meek hosted Model Legislature at Hagerstown Jr./Sr. High School. Ms. Olinger helped with the event as well. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to them both for keeping this 44-year tradition thriving. Hagerstown Tigers were elected to top spots in the mock state government including state governor. Students involved in Model Legislature from many surrounding school corporations receive much coaching before the event in preparation to author bills and amend them through the day until they are suitable. I walked into the middle of the conversation where students were discussing birth control. I swallowed hard and tried hard to suspend judgement, and when I noticed Mr. Stephenson from Centerville working in the back of the audience updating board policies, I figured this was all par for the course for Model Leg. A second group was discussing a public assistance program in another section of the auditorium, so I made myself comfortable there and watched very talented students effectively conduct their business meeting. A side note: I heard that visiting students gave our school lunch a "thumbs up"! We include a tip of the Tiger's tail to our cafeteria staff for making our student guests and their coaches feel welcome!



Let's wrap up this week's letter with a couple more points that I've been meaning to share. The first is a celebration that sixth-grade teacher, Ms. Claywell, and sixth-grade teacher, Ms. Keesling, are now daughter-in-law and mother-in-law. We wish Ms. Claywell the very best!

And finally, HES cafeteria staff appreciates that teachers are bringing students to the lunchroom in order by the lunch children have requested. Doing so has addressed the cafeteria's challenge to meet the meal requests of students in the last lunch of the day.

Yours for another successful week with children!

WD

