



Weekly Hawklined



Hello Skyeeehawks!

Modern technology has allowed us to explore in greater depth how the brain functions. "Neuroscientists observe an abundance of gamma oscillations in people who show the deepest levels of compassion, empathy, and cognitive power". Gamma oscillations indicate that the brain is functioning at its highest levels, stimulating not only academic growth but social-emotional health. How can we create an educational environment for our students to function at their peak? Solving advanced math problems? Yes, but the research indicates that we can also get there by teaching our students to care for others. Of course, we want our students to do well in math, but we should not neglect the importance of character and how it can support academics. Our Positivity Project Character Strength for the month is Other People Mindset, or simply having compassion and empathy for others (or teaching students to function at the gamma level).

I believe that a student is constantly surrounded by a learning environment, even when not at school in the classroom. Popular culture has its own curriculum, and its teachers and classrooms have access to the home through electronics. Social media and gaming provide a learning environment; social influencers and other online users are the teachers who deliver the curriculum. Much of our current cultural curriculum devalues empathy and compassion. Social influencers and other online users, for example, often inflate differences among people, creating opponents instead of neighbors. If opponents won't be persuaded, they become enemies. Instead of empathy, they create targets; instead of compassion, they create conflict. One could argue that according to research, what a student experiences online makes them less intelligent and unhealthier, which makes our jobs as educators and parents more difficult. Research indicates that this phenomenon may explain why students, nationwide, experience learning loss and a digression of moral behavior after a long break from school.

To support our hard work as educators and parents (and to encourage students to function at high levels), Liberty will implement the "Gift of Kindness" curriculum, going into winter break, the week of December 18th to December 21st (no school on Friday, the 22nd). Students will learn that they can give a gift of kindness to adults and students, without money or going to the store. The Gift of Kindness is valuable because it helps people grow, for both, those who receive the gift and those who give it. Skyhawks will learn that everyday can be a day of opening presents with friends, family, and teachers simply by being kind. Please help us encourage your child to practice empathy and compassion this week. Have discussions about the "Gift of Kindness" and how this gift can be given multiple times at home and at school. Together, we can give your child the gift of growth and give it generously.

Fly High, Fly Proud, Fly at the Gamma Level
 George Petersen
 Liberty Elementary School

LIBERTY SKYHAWK WINTER DRESS UP WEEK! 

M ^{12/18}  **BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!**
 WEAR YOUR FAVORITE FLANNEL, CAP, SCARF, OR COZY SOCKS

T ^{12/19} **TACKY TUESDAY!** 
 MIX AND MATCH PATTERNS OR WEAR AN UGLY SWEATER

W ^{12/20}  **DON'T BE A GRINCH DAY!**
 GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO BE KIND TODAY & WEAR SOME HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Th ^{12/21} **A Long Winter's Nap!** 
 SETTLE IN FOR A COZY DAY IN YOUR PAJAMAS! ZZZZZzzz...

F ^{12/22} **Winter Break Begins!** 
 HAVE A REST-FUL HOLIDAY BREAK! WE WILL SEE YOU BACK AT SCHOOL ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024!

All dress must be within CUSD dress code guidelines. Thank you!

LIBERTY STUDENT COUNCIL PRESENTS

Hot Cocoa Grams

SEND A COCOA GRAM TO A FRIEND!
 \$1.00

PURCHASE A GRAM AT YOUR MORNING RECESS!
 DECEMBER 18 & 19

GRAMS WILL BE DELIVERED ON DECEMBER 20




Parent Club

From the desk of



Parent Club President Melissa Gullekson...

Please be sure to set up your account with Membership Toolkit! This is where you will be able to get information and purchase tickets for any PTC events!

Every Week at Liberty...

Every Monday	Every Tuesday	Every Wednesday	Every Thursday	Every Friday
7:00 Drama 10:10 Student Council Room 19 2:45 - 3:45 Sports Practice 3rd Grade Math Club	Classroom Music 2:45 - 3:45 Sports Practice 3rd Grade Math Club Math Mania (Room 13) Detention - Room 9	7:00 Drama Rehearsal 3rd Grade Reading Club 7:15 2nd Grade Reading Club Classroom Music 1:15 Early Dismissal	7:00 3rd Grade Reading Club 7:30 Science Fair Meeting Room 9 2:45 - 3:45 Detention - Room 9 Sports Practice	7:00 Drama Rehearsal Classroom Music Snack Shack

Monday, Dec. 18	Tuesday, Dec. 19	Wed., Dec. 20	Thursday, Dec. 21	Friday, Dec. 22
Cocoa Grams on Sale Morning Recess 12:10 Drama Rehearsal	Cocoa Grams on Sale Morning Recess	Cocoa Grams Delivered 3:30 - 5:00 Pep Cheer Practice 4:15 - 5:00 Comp Cheer Practice	Game Day at Valley Oak	NO SCHOOL!

Monday, Jan. 8	Tuesday, Jan. 9	Wed., Jan. 10	Thursday, Jan. 11	Friday, Jan. 12
NO SCHOOL		Happy Birthday, Mr. Lyle!  Happy Birthday, Mrs. Sassano!  3:30—4:15 Cheer Practice 3:45 - History Day Mtg. Room 11 4:15—5:00 Comp Cheer Practice	2:50 - 4:30 Comp Pep Practice 4:00 ELAC/SSC Meeting	7:15 Oral Interp Practice LMC 12:30 Sports Pictures HOME GAME! Vs. Maple Creek

Check it out!



SKYHAWK WINTER SEASON

- FORT WASHINGTON **11/16** @ LIBERTY
- LIBERTY **12/1** @ LINCOLN
- NELSON **12/8** @ LIBERTY
- LIBERTY **12/15** @ PINEDALE
- LIBERTY **12/21** @ VALLEY OAK
- MAPLE CREEK **1/12** @ LIBERTY

**LIBERTY 6TH GRADERS!
YEARBOOK INFORMATION**

- Friday, Jan. 26
Artwork Contest Due to Google Form in Upper Grade Google Classroom by 3:00 pm
- Friday, Feb. 16
 - Baby Picture Submission Due to Upper Grade Google Classroom
 - Request for Dedication page and payment due
- Friday, March 15
Final Dedication Page Due by 3:00 pm
- February 26 - March 22
Yearbooks on sale for all Skyhawks!



Have a most restful break!
We will see you Tuesday, January 9!