



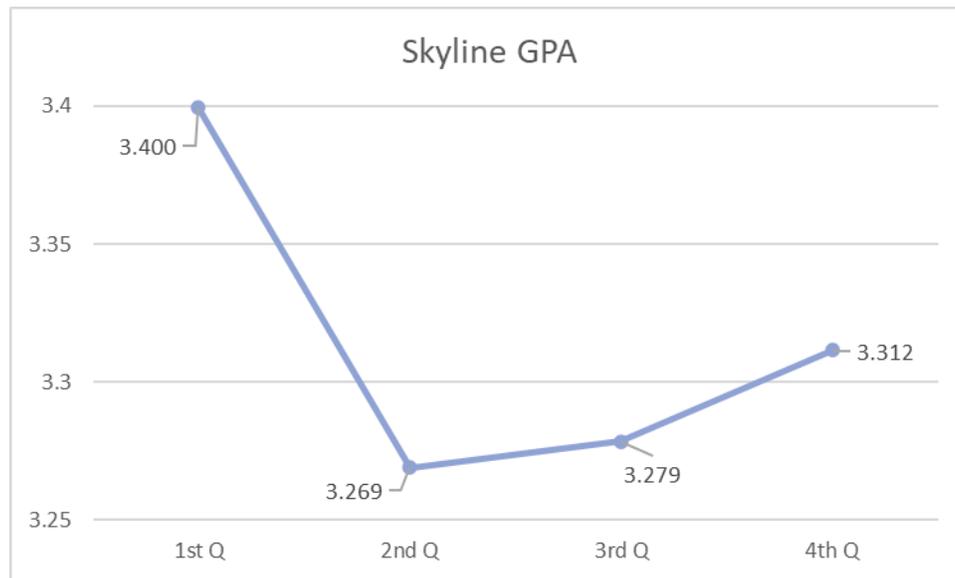
SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



November 2, 2020

The first quarter of the school year has come to an end and we are into the second week of the second quarter. I was looking over some data about student achievement and noticed that Skyline follows a trend that I have seen happen at every school I have worked at over the past twenty years. Grades drop sharply second quarter and then gradually rise third and fourth quarter. Here is a graph of the school-wide GPA over the last couple of years at Skyline:



I share this data with you so that we are all aware of this trend that happens in schools and so that we can hopefully do something about it. I can only guess why this happens. We have many holidays that disrupt second quarter. Perhaps, there might be a slacking off by students or the curriculum advances and the adjustment is harder for students. Perhaps, some other reason exists. I hope we can work together in support of our students so that this trend does not become the reality for your student. I believe that if families, teachers, and students know this trend exists, we can all do something different. Perhaps, we can all do something to ensure that our work supports students in such a way that they do not realize such a drop off during second quarter.

Many have commented on our successes over this first quarter. Things have gone better for us in many aspects than some would have thought prior to the year starting. However, we need to continue to be vigilant. Teachers continue to work hard to provide quality instruction for both in-person and distance learners. Our teachers spent the provided workdays learning new pedagogy that promises to increase the effectiveness of dual-modality teaching. They love your students and strive to provide for them the very best that they know how. Students continue to be compliant with our mitigation efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19. These efforts are effective. If we all keep up the good work, we will continue to find the success we have become accustomed to here at Skyline High School.

Sincerely,
Mitch Nerdin, Principal