November 23, 2020

Keith Tempest was the first Student Body President of Skyline in 1963. His thoughts recorded in the yearbook are, “What a momentous year this has been!” He wrote that at the end of the first year of the existence of this school. They started the ball rolling back then and it has continued through the decades. Today, Skyline High School is an impressive institution that boasts some of the very best educational opportunities.

We underwent an accreditation this last week. All high schools must be accredited in order to award diplomas. The process happens about every five years. An outside agency thoroughly investigates our school and determines, based on data from many sources, if we are worthy to continue to provide coursework that leads to a high school diploma. The person in charge of the process for us told our school leadership team in a culminating meeting after three days of work, “Skyline is the gem of high schools in Utah, if not in the entire Intermountain West.” She told us we had “aced the test”. She mentioned that in her entire career she had not seen a school so focused on student academic success. Basically, she discovered what you all know, Skyline is a pretty special place.

At this time of year, I wanted to convey to you how grateful I am. I am so appreciative of the chance I have to be at Skyline. I get to experience a school that is successful in so many ways. I am thankful for the new relationships I have with the teachers I am getting to know. They are some of the most amazing teachers who truly desire the very best for students. I am grateful for the families of students at Skyline. You are the reason the accreditation team found our school to be so special. It is impressive to see your commitment to your students and their growth during these formative years. Most of all, I am extremely grateful for teenage students. I find so much joy in interacting with them and working to find best practices that ensure all students find success. It really is the greatest job, working every day to help students recognize how great they are. I am so thankful to be at Skyline High School.

This year has been momentous for very different reasons from those in 1963. The experiences are different this year than any other year in Skyline history. While we struggle through them together, I just wanted to thank you all for your support and for helping me feel so welcome.

Sincerely,
Mitch Nerdin, Principal