March 8, 2021

I have been anxiously completing Spring evaluations. It is such a reward to spend extra time in classrooms and see what amazing things our teachers do. I want to share a discussion I had with a teacher. This person is newer to Skyline. As I watched the class, I could tell that the teacher worked very hard to plan out the lesson and had developed a robust resource on their CANVAS page that was used to guide the in-person learning as well as distance learning. The information helped offer additional methods for students to learn the concept and guide them through the learning experience.

In our conversation, we discussed the difference between an experience and skill building. It can be very meaningful for students to have wonderfully interesting, fun, and memorable experiences. I do not want to diminish the importance of offering experiences to ensure students enjoy school. The challenge teachers are charged with is building students’ knowledge and abilities. The written curriculum asks that students gain newfound skills. The very best learning happens in an environment that combines experiences with skill building. I was congratulating this teacher for his exceptional class that offered students a rigorous experience while also building their skills to be self-sufficient or proficient at some point in the future. The combination helps students find joy in learning and pride in accomplishment. Skyline works diligently to offer this in every class.

Please, tell us stories of teachers who have done something that has made a difference at Skyline High School. Think about the four components of our RISE program. Teachers are working hard and doing amazing things to help students be Resilient, have Integrity, Support themselves and others, as well as achieve Excellence in its various forms. Feel free to participate as often as you see fit to recognize the great teachers we have at Skyline High School. Teachers receive an award weekly for being recognized. They love to hear their efforts are being appreciated. Here is a link to the survey: https://forms.gle/mDQPY7xybBCKnpq97.

This week, we will highlight Ms. Shaunda Trimmer. She is a Veteran at Skyline. She teaches Mathematics, in particular, she teaches Calculus. She has also been the Cheerleading Advisor in the past. Currently, she is a Math Teacher who pushes students to reach high and master a difficult subject. Ms. Trimmer is being recognized by the Skyline High School community:

“She is the model for online and organized from remote learning!”

“Ms Trimmer clearly sets objectives and expectations. Her Canvas calendar is set out in advance so we know when the assignments or tests are coming and can prepare. She uses Canvas to the limits and she grades EVERYTHING. There are no surprises. She is organized and fair.”

Congratulations Ms. Trimmer for all that you do for students and for making Skyline RISE!

Sincerely,
Mitch Nerdin, Principal