



SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



October 5, 2021

The Skyline High School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) is sponsoring a program called "Great Lunches." This is a monthly activity where students come to the auditorium during their lunch for free pizza and a message of hope, inspiration, and great ideas. The PTSA is working with the RISE Ambassadors and our SBOs to create a series of wonderful speakers who will come to Skyline and share their messages with our students.

Next week, on Thursday, October 14, the PTSA has invited Jessie Funk to come speak and sing to our students. She is a fabulous presenter for youth. The SBOs got to see her at their summer camp and thought the students at Skyline would love to experience her and could benefit from her message. I particularly love one of the messages in a song she recorded. The message is, "I am not perfect. But, I am perfectly me." Skyline students often appear to be perfect as they accomplish so much. Each one of our students is perfect in their own way as they discover who they are and what they can become. I hope no one feels the pressure to be perfect in any way. These high school days are developmental and require students to experience struggle as they work toward their goals. They are perfectly wonderful as they become who they want to be.

We could not provide such an amazingly beneficial program for our students without the support of our PTSA. Thanks to those who have joined already. We still need many to join. If you have not done so, JOIN the PTSA, please. You may join the PTSA through the Skyline Webstore at <http://payskyline.graniteschools.org> or you may join through the PTSA website here: <https://skylineptsa.memberhub.com/store>.

We have the very best teachers at Skyline. I hope parents are seeing the great things our teachers do. We want to hear from you about your experiences with our great teachers. We will honor a staff member each week based on your feedback. Please, take a moment each week and tell us about the great things happening in the classrooms of Skyline High School. This is the link to submit nominations: <https://forms.gle/mDQPY7xybBCKnpg97>.

This week we are honoring Ms. Jill Thackeray. Ms. Thackeray is the English Department Chair and is also one of our IB Coordinators. She is passionate about teaching English Literature, AP English, and IB English. She continuously combines instruction with compassion and encouragement. Here are some of the comments about Ms. Thackeray:

"My son had fallen behind and become discouraged. He was avoiding his teachers out of fear. When he went in to talk with Ms. Thackeray, she offered understanding and compassion. She made an agreement with him to enable him to pick himself up and get moving forward again. I think this trait in teachers is crucial, and I appreciate Ms. Thackeray offering her time and concern to work with my son on an individual basis. KUDOS to Ms. Thackeray for putting hope back into my son's school progress and heart! (My son had two negative teachers the same year in the third grade. Ever since, he begins every class with anxiety. It just takes a little encouragement and support and he begins to soar. I believe these familiar, negative feelings may continue to creep in throughout his life anytime he begins to encounter discomfort or negativity from superiors, and I hope he'll see that communication is the key. Talking to parents, friends, and those we find conflict with will enable us to find solutions). I tell you this to illustrate that there is no way teachers can know a student's past, and it's nice to have them give a student the benefit of the doubt, and give them some options and hope. We are grateful to Ms. Thackeray!!"

Sincerely,
Mitch Nerdin, Principal