



# SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



January 31, 2022

Much is spoken about the excellence achieved by the wonderful students who attend Skyline High School. Rightfully so, they are accomplishing great things and should be recognized for it. It is exciting to be around students who focus on working hard and accomplishing their academic goals. It makes the work of schooling so much more rewarding to have engaged students who are here for the purpose of learning.

While we have some programs that are focused on service, and these are amazing programs that I highly recommend, there is not enough focus on helping students be good. Skyline students are amazingly good. This is a result of the wonderful families from which they come. We do not have a curriculum or a class that teaches being good. It is assumed that goodness would be taught through the curricula and by way of example. I want you all to know that I believe that the most important thing is that Skyline helps students to be good. That should be the greatest accomplishment of adolescence, learning to be a good person. I hope teachers infuse discussion of goodness into every lesson. I hope students strive to have integrity in all that they do and know that we here at Skyline value being good above academic achievement. I do think that goodness helps improve all other aspects of one's life. Therefore, students who are good are more likely to accomplish great things in their lives.

As we are headlong into third quarter, I want to make sure that we communicate the universal deadline for this quarter. Skyline's **deadline** for third quarter is **March 18**. The hope is that this serves as a way to help families support students. One date is easier to keep track of than different dates for all eight classes.

Finally, parent teacher conferences are next week. Families can sign up for virtual or in-person both nights at Skyline. However, it is expected that families make an appointment (or sign-up) for each of the teachers with whom they plan to conference.

We want to hear from you about how our teachers help to teach goodness or model it in their interactions with students. We will honor a staff member each week based on your feedback. Please, take a moment and tell us about the great things happening in the classrooms of Skyline High School. Here is the link for nominations: <https://forms.gle/mDQPY7xybBCKnpq97>.

Today we will honor Mr. Michael Olson. Mr. Olson came to Skyline High in 2020 and has been a wonderful addition to the Skyline English Department. Mr. Olson's positive attitude

is evident in his daily interactions with students, faculty, and staff. Here are some comments about Mr. Olson:

“My son told me last night how much he loves his English teacher, Mr. Olson. He mentioned that he puts on jazz music while they work which helps create a calm and relaxed atmosphere. He added that Mr. Olson makes it so no one is afraid of participating and that he's super nice and funny. He sounds like a fantastic teacher.”

“Mr. Olson reached out to me near the end of last quarter (2nd) to express concern about my son's work in his English class. He was supportive, optimistic, and practical - he suggested some specific things he felt would help my son improve his grade. I really appreciated the following: 1. He took the time to contact me and express concern. 2. He remained encouraging and helpful throughout, never being demeaning or harsh to me or my son. 3. He had a lot of good ideas and suggestions and followed through on them. As a result, my son's grade drastically improved. It's teachers like Mr. Olson who are making a difference and I hope he is recognized for his caring and professional approach with students. Thank you!”

Sincerely,  
Mitch Nerdin, Principal