# NP<sup>3</sup> Middle School Counseling Newsletter Quarter 1

#### College Conference Draft and Fair Prep

NP3 8th grade educators took place in a college conference draft to decide which conferences and schools their Advisory students will be able to choose from for our annual College Fair in May. Teachers were all in with the selection process, as conferences including the Pacific 12, Atlantic Coast Conference, Southeastern Conference and Big 10 all went off the selection board early. Last year our Math department took home the college fair trophy as Mr. Berry led his Advisory (Berry's Burgers) to a sweet victory. 8th grade students will work throughout the year on their presentations, all leading up to College Fair, May 24th.

#### Middle School Emotions

Have you ever found it hard to connect with your middle schooler? You are not alone! Middle school is a key social and emotional stage in your students' life where lots of changes occur. Worries about friends, schoolwork, activities outside of school and oneself may all cause moodiness with your child. Be present and available to talk with your student. Contact your child's counselor if unsure how to speak with or connect with a middle school aged kid.

Your middle school student is "finding themself". Encourage new activities, clubs, sports, and new experiences overall. This will help your student find which activities they enjoy and where they may feel most comfortable on

and off campus.

Spending time and being available for your middle schooler is very effective and supportive. However parents and guardians must find a positive balance when giving your child privacy. Take the time to have the conversation of privacy with your student; setting family rules and guidelines that all can agree upon. It is important for the middle school student to be heard and at the same time have boundaries with different things such as social media, tech and screen time.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NP3 SCHOOLS?

## NP<sup>3</sup> Elementary

NP<sup>3</sup> Elementary kids are working hard on their Action Teams! This year we have Dance Team, Playground/Garden, Sunshine, Green Team, Tidy Team, Artists, Acapirates, Journalism, Skit Leaders and Student Lighthouse.

#### NP<sup>3</sup> Middle

8th grade students experienced the NP<sup>3</sup> High Community Fair on September 12th. Students saw first hand which opportunities and programs are available to them.

#### NP3 High

The high school math students improved their scores on the CAASPP assessment! Students who *met* or *exceeded* the standard for the math assessment increased 10% from the previous year and 26% from two years ago.

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# Leadership Rush

Throughout the week of September 10th MS students participated in Leadership Rush. Tables and chromebooks were set up in the guad for students to easily sign-up. Students organize and lead clubs and action teams while showing responsibility by taking care of daily and weekly tasks throughout campus. Action teams and clubs included Campus Love, Chromebook Leader, Bathroom Leader / Germ Task Force, Lost and Found Leader, Event Planners, Sports Club and many more. All students were encouraged to join an action team or club! Students may join throughout the year as well.



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#### Bringing a College Campus to You!

NP³ High has an impressive schedule of visiting colleges lined up for the 18-19 school year. HS Students can view short college presentations and even have their questions answered by a college counselor. Within the next month HS students will visit with Washington State, Oregon, University of New Mexico, Sacramento State and Concordia University. It's a great time to be a Pirate!

#### Community Fair

8th grade advisory classes joined NP3 HS students at their Community Fair on September 12th. There were over 30 clubs and Senior projects represented. It was a great way for our 8th graders to not only experience high school life, but it also gave them the opportunity to explore what topics are important to our high school students. Students were encouraged to to ask questions, see what interests they might share with others and of course, have fun!

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