Principal’s Note:

Silvia Community,

I hope this edition of *The Spotlight* finds all of you doing well. It has been a few weeks since our last edition as my wife and I have welcomed our son, Kennedy, into the world.

We have had quite an amazing last few weeks here at Silvia. From celebrating Read Across America, to our Student-Staff Basketball Game, to our scholars preparing and engaging in MCAS - the Silvia staff continues to be so proud of our students and their commitments to learning and growing.

As we look ahead, we have two weeks until April Break. During those weeks, ELA MCAS is planned for grades 4 and 5. Please find the MCAS schedule within this document. As always, it is imperative that students are in school on the days of their assessment.

Staff/Student B-Ball Game:

On Thursday, March 31st, we had students and staff and families all back together again in the Silvia gym for our Staff/Student Basketball Game. It was AMAZING to see so many smiles as we were a community inside Silvia School once again.

A HUGE thank you to Mr. Pacheco for organizing this event. Also, thank you to Ms. Homol, Ms. Rafferty, and Ms. Souza for their work with the Cheer-Squad! Thank you to our staff, students and families that participated!

Attendance:

Students who are absent for 10% or more of our 180 school days, are considered CHRONICALLY absent. This past week, we have been sending home letters to notify families who are approaching this mark of CHRONIC and those who have already hit it. In addition, we have been making phone calls to families who are approaching the 18 day absence mark, to inquire about how we may be able to support those families with attendance.

It is IMPERATIVE that students are in school. If you need support with attendance and/or have questions about attendance please contact the school to speak to any member of administration. If you have received or do receive a phone call from a Silvia staff member, please make it a priority to call us back so we can work as a team on attendance.

Change of Number and/or Address:

As a parent or guardian, if you have a change with your phone number and/or your address, please call Silvia School and notify us. It is unsafe for the school to not have accurate contact information for our students.

SILVIA STARs

*Stay safe * Treat others with kindness * Always do your best * Respect yourself, others, and the school
Read Across America:

One of our main goals at Silvia, is to foster a love for reading in our students. Staff and students have the autonomy to explore as many different authors and genres as they can as to expose our students to a variety of texts. Just as adults read for a variety of reasons and have their own preferences, so do our students. As students learn who they are as learners and readers, our hope is they are intrinsically motivated to learn.

The last few weeks, we have spent time reflecting on and celebrating our READING ACCOMPLISHMENTS. Classes decorated their classroom doors with positive reading moments, we had Silvia Alumni come to read to our students from Durfee, community members visited Silvia and read some of their favorite children's titles, Big/Little Buddies read together, and we had a March Madness for Books.

Thank you to Ms. Davies, our Reading Coach for her organization of the schedule and events. Thank you to our teachers, who continue to be models for life-long reading. Check out a YouTube video Ms. Davies and Ms. Sardinha put together to capture our Reading Across America celebrations by clicking the link [HERE](#).

“If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.” — Toni Morrison

5th Grade Transition to Middle School:

As we head into Spring, there will be information shared with families about our 5th graders’ transition to middle school. One of the communication pieces comes from the district. It will be a letter notifying you of the FRPS middle school your student will be assigned to for the 2022 - 2023 school year. Within this communication piece, there will also be steps for you to take to request a different placement if you so choose.

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