

# **MESSAGE FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL Ryan Faris**

## Resorter Pride

October brought beautiful fall colors. In terms of academics, it also signifies the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. As we head into the first few weeks the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, we have a lot of great things happening in our school. Students have worked hard and performed well in the classroom and as well as, in the many fall extracurricular activities. I appreciate the support we receive from families to make our work with students productive both in and outside the classroom.

A big thank you to Mrs. Glynn, Ms. Voss, Mr. & Mrs. Green, Mr. Johnston, and all the high school musical cast as they put on three great shows over the November 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend. This year, the musical featured an entire cast of high school students who, along with their directors, put in many hours preparing for the show.

I want to thank Ms. Voss, Mrs. Green, and Mrs. Roehl for organizing an outstanding Veteran's Day Program and meal this year. Thank you to all the local veterans who decided to spend the morning with our students. I would also like to thank this year's featured speakers, senior Megan Waage, and retired US Air Force Major, Matthew Waage, for sharing their message that was both meaningful and motivational. The program was a great reminder how fortunate we are that so many people made sacrifices to give us the freedoms we have today.

We held our 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter student recognition on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, in the high school auditorium. Students were recognized for participation in academic competitions, academic achievements, club activities, athletic competitions, as well as other co-curricular participation. The new members of the National Honor Society were inducted at a ceremony on November 6<sup>th</sup> at The Osthoff Resort. We congratulate our new members of N.H.S. and trust they will continue to live up to the expectations of this prestigious organization.

On November 16<sup>th</sup>, we conducted our first college and career exploration day at ELGHS. Our freshman and sophomores learned about area businesses and manufacturing as the Kohler Road Show, and Bemis presented and discussed opportunities and soft skills. Our juniors visited LTC and Lakeland, and our seniors worked on the ability profile test through Career Cruising that focuses on job related skills.

Technology can be a great tool and resource in our lives, but it sometimes seems like teenagers' lives revolve around their phones and technology. From the internet and social media, to

cell phones, apps, games, television and other types of technology, it's easy to wonder whether it's all too much. Research indicates that the average 15-17 year-old spends just over 2 hours per day on their screen. Most of that time is on social networking sites like SnapChat, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Other apps like [Sarahah](#) and [TBH](#) have become the latest obsessions among high schoolers, following the popularity of other anonymous platforms such as Ask.fm, Curious Cat, Yik Yak, Whisper and Secret. Such anonymous apps can be "notorious hubs for cyberbullying," according to Common Sense Media. Technology can be a great resource for your teen as long as it is used correctly. Unfortunately, it can also be abused and used as a tool for harmful bullying. Take a moment to speak with your teen about their technology use and encourage them to use it in a positive manner. It's also important to encourage and support your child to balance screen time with face-to-face time with people and to make sure they leave enough time in their week for physical exercise, learning, and other types of physical activity.

We know that our classes and grades are important, but high school is much more. High school is a time for your child to make new friends, learn a new skill, be part of a new experience, and become more involved in a variety of high school activities. High school is, like everything else, the more you put into it the more you will get out of it. Research indicates that students who are involved in activities generally do better academically, and they enjoy school more. Being involved is also a great way to meet new people. Now that the rush of the beginning of school year is over, please talk to your child about what activities he or she is involved. Please encourage your child to join a high school activity. We have a list of available activities on our website.

Lastly, on behalf of the high school faculty, we wish all the families in the district best wishes during the holiday season. We hope everyone has time to spend with family and friends.