



Blue Note: Galway Chronicle

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Home of the Galway Lions where Readers are Leaders!

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THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER—MS. CURTIS

Many families across our county are facing very challenging times as a result of the economic issues our country is experiencing. Thankfully, we have organizations to help assist and support families. Manna Food Center is an organization that provides food for families at distribution centers throughout Montgomery County. Individuals and families can obtain food once a month by making a self-referral and contacting Manna at [301.424.1130](tel:3014241130). You must make the referral at least 24 hours before you want to pick up food. Food will not be distributed the same day of referral. Distribution centers are located throughout the county for convenience and several are located within our

CONTINUED SUCCESS

Now that your children have received their report card and you have had an opportunity to meet with the teachers, please consider this time as an opportunity to talk openly with your children about the feedback they received and setting goals. Do not focus on the grades, but on the underlying strengths and needs they represent. This not only helps students feel supported, it eases the anxiety around the whole topic. Some suggested questions to ask your children are:

What grade(s) are you most proud of? This question gives your child the opportunity to discuss his or her favorite classes and teachers and is a great way to begin the report-card conversation on a positive note. It also helps you understand those aspects of your child's school experience that give him or her the greatest sense of pride. Your child's answers may surprise you. Perhaps his or her proudest grade is not the 4 in one subject, but the 2 earned in another subject, because of the challenging content.

What classes did you find the most difficult this year? Why? Asking your child to tell you where he or she struggles the most allows him or her to reflect on what it is about certain classes that he or she finds challenging. Listen without judging and if your child has a tough time articulating, talk about each subject specifically and ask open-ended questions.

What would you like to work on? This opens the floor for your child to ask for help - whether he or she needs to work on study skills, bringing up grades or not procrastinating. It also creates buy-in on your child's part. He or she is more likely to work toward goals that he or she helped set.

How can I help you achieve your goals? Goal-setting is closely linked to student achievement. However, setting goals and hoping your child will define the steps to achieve them all on his or her own is not the way to set him or her up for success. Even asking this question lets your child know that you're in it together, but be sure that your child knows you are willing to work together to help him or her make progress. That support and encouragement will boost your child's self-esteem and motivation.

Although report cards can cause stress, they present opportunities for parents to help their children progress and improve..



Calendar Items

- Fri. Nov. 18 -** Sock Hop, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Mon. Nov. 21 -** Kindergarten Thanksgiving Night
6:00 p.m.
- Tues. Nov. 22 -** Make-up picture day
- Wed. Nov. 23 -** **EARLY RELEASE**

Thanksgiving Break

- Thurs. Nov. 24 -** NO SCHOOL
- Fri. Nov. 25 -** NO SCHOOL
- Mon. Nov. 28 -** Welcome back!
- Fri. Dec. 2 -** Spinny Basketball Assembly



Principal's Comments!



Dear Galway Families,

This is a time of year to reflect and be thankful for the gifts in our lives. The gift of life, the gift of family, and the gift of love. On behalf of the staff of Galway Elementary School, I want to wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving. For those of you who do not celebrate Thanksgiving, we will you well.

Ms. Stanislaus
Principal