

## **March Greetings from the High School Resource Room!**

The count-down for the end of the year has begun, and the seniors have only forty-two days of school left until they exit the doors of Pearl City High School and become citizens of the adult world! Don't think that the rest of the student body has not started their own count-down for the days left until summer break either because they have; only forty-seven days until school is out for summer.

With that said, there is still a lot of work to be done here at school. Juniors have the PSAE test coming up. They also have to pass the American Constitution test. Seniors have to pass the Ag Business test (Consumer Education for those of us who are older). In addition, they have final scholarship applications, college applications, and other class work that must be completed. The current buzz is not about classes or sports though; it is about prom dresses and dates! Prom will be the final dance for the two classes to enjoy together and will take place on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. This will be a time for them to make some final high school memories and celebrate together.

What have we been accomplishing in the resource room? For the past several weeks, the students have been busy learning about the industrial revolution. They have also learned how corporations allowed businessmen to find the capital necessary to run larger businesses through the use of stocks. They have also learned how unions evolved and why. In addition, many new inventions, such as the telephone, typewriter, and rail systems improved many peoples' lives. In math we are learning how eliminating wrong answers can assist one in finding the correct answer, a study skill the juniors may use while taking their upcoming PSAE tests. In science class we have been discussing lenses and mirrors and how the light is refracted differently when using a concave versus a convex lens for corrective purposes. My English 1 students are progressing beautifully through the parts of speech in the grammar book, while the English 4 students have moved on to identifying main ideas and details, following directions, using text book reference pages, and identifying sentence meanings. They have also been making inferences, drawing conclusions, and identifying main ideas and key sentences. I am pleased with the effort, hard work, and outcomes! I feel very lucky as a teacher, as a person, to witness the growth academically and socially that all students go through. When I was a newer teacher, I was impatient with the progress I felt I was "not seeing"; now that I am an older teacher, I watch the kids mature and grow each and every day. I look at the progress over time. How lucky am I? We have about nine weeks of school left. This is the time that all of us teachers, students, and parents need to encourage kids and each other. I tell the kids "You may not want to do the work, or you may feel overwhelmed with it all, but you have to keep going. You have to do the work. You will see; it is all worth it in the end because you will learn and grow from all of these school experiences." Please keep monitoring your child's progress and call with concerns you might have. Until then, enjoy the warming weather and the Spring Break that is now only twelve days away!

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