

Kid Scoop News Monthly Superintendent's Corner **January 2019**

I hope each of you have enjoyed a fantastic Holiday season with family and friends. While I know that lots of attention was on the special event that occurred on December 25, I wonder how many of you celebrated January 1, 2019 (New Year's Day)? While I loved every minute of Christmas with my family, I was equally as excited to welcome in the New Year! At the beginning of the school year I shared encouragement in my article about the new school year being an opportunity to have a fresh start. The cool part about the school year is that we get not 1 but 2 opportunities to start over fresh!!

At the beginning of each New Year, I always reflect on the past year on what I feel like went well and what I wish would have gone better. Once I have reflected on the past year then my focus moves exclusively toward the year ahead. It is exciting but maybe a little scary to look into the unknown and imagine the possibilities. Most of us have been taught that "seeing is believing". This phrase was first used in the 1600's!! That being said, it is hard to believe something with our minds and hearts that our eyes have not seen first.

Being able to see is important. Vision is one of the most important senses we have as human beings. Even for a perfectly functioning eye, researchers have found that every human eye has a blind spot in the center of its visual field. There are also blind spots in our peripheral vision (side vision) but what I am referencing is the blind spot located right in the center of our visual experience. Since you are not aware of a blind spot when you are looking straight ahead at an object or scene, this means that your brain fills in the blind spot to create the image we are seeing. So even what you are seeing right in front of you is being built by what you are imagining.

You must allow yourself to look through eyes of faith to believe in a reality that does not yet exist. One of my favorite movie lines comes from the Polar Express. This line occurs toward the end of the movie when the main character, a young boy who was struggling to believe in Christmas, is told by the train conductor, "Seeing is believing. But some of the most real things in the world are things we can't see". If we think about it, this is very true. We can't see faith, hope, love, joy, happiness, and gratitude but they are essential to having a fulfilled life.

As you look into the unknown future of the year 2019, I challenge you to believe great things are ahead for you and work to make them happen!!! Just as your brain fills in the blanks for your eye's blind spot, let your heart fill in the blanks for your vision of this New Year and what it can hold for you!!!!