



RANCHO VIEJO MIDDLE SCHOOL

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"Win the day!"

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Dear Students and Parents:

Aristotle states, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." As we move into the 2018-2019 school year our focus is on ensuring that students "**Win the day**" by developing habits socially, emotionally and academically that result in excellence. This year the Maverick community will embark on a mission to ENCOURAGE, EMPOWER and ENGAGE all stakeholders in accomplishing our 20/20 vision.

George M. Adams wrote, "Encouragement is oxygen to the soul." More rigorous academic standards, challenging social interactions and the development of individual ideas can be exhausting for middle school students. This is often a period of "firsts" for many students. These life experiences can either lead to tremendous growth and connectedness, or setbacks and withdrawal. While growth is not always easy, it is always worth it. As students grow academically, socially and emotionally it is critical that we find ways to encourage them through the challenging moments. When life takes their breath away, let's be the encouragement that breathes oxygen back into their efforts.

In any society the real power lies with those who are empowered. As we prepare students to be successful in college and career we must do more than provide the facts. We must empower students to take all of the information provided and to create new opportunities for future success. As members of the school community, we all must work to model what it means to be empowered through staying engaged in our community, our school and the lives of our children. Critical thinking, around critical issues will be the foundation for empowering students to be independent thinkers, creators and innovators.

Webster's dictionary defines engagement as establishing meaningful contacts or connections. Middle school is often the time where students work to become more independent from their parents and adults role models. Meaningful interactions at Rancho Viejo will allow parents and students to remain connected and engaged throughout their middle school careers. Maintaining a positive relationship with the school leads to improved attendance and academic outcomes along with social development. In order to create habits that lead to excellence, all members of our school community must be actively involved in the process of educating our students. Stay connected, and stay engaged.

Throughout the 2018-2019 school year, we want everyone in our school community to reach their full potential by achieving small, daily wins that lead to continued excellence. By remembering to ENCOURAGE, EMPOWER and ENGAGE each other on a daily basis, we will create habits that allow each and every one of us to "Win the Day". We look forward to supporting your students on the long journey toward college and career readiness. Together, we rise. Divided, we fall. In unity, on behalf of our students, let's "WIN THE DAY!"

Sincerely,

Jonathon Workman
Principal