



5 April 2013

Upcoming Events

Monday, 25 March - Monday, 1 April – Spring Break. **NO SCHOOL.**

Friday, 5 April – End of 3rd Quarter., Science Fair Experimental Design due (grades 7-12)

Thursday, 11 April – Parent-Teacher Conferences, please call Jen to schedule.

Friday, 12 April – **Early Dismissal, 1:30 p.m.** Parent-Teacher Conference, please call Jen to schedule

Tuesday-Thursday, 16-19 April – NYS ELA Testing, Grades 4 & 8

Tuesday-Friday, 16-19 April – Achievement Testing, Grades 1-3, 5-7, 9-10.

Monday-Friday, 22-26 April – **Missions Week.** 8:30-9:00 a.m. Parents invited.

Monday – "God's Call on Your Life," Karen Graybill

Tuesday – "How To Share Your Faith," Allen Roth, Chairman, DestiNations International

Wednesday – Local Evangelism, Henry Blank, Director DNI Missions Training Center

Thursday – Missions in North America, MTC mission trainees

Friday – World Missions, Dustin Miller, linguist in Bangladesh

FJS Mission Statement, Part 7

*Followers of Jesus School exists to provide a quality, academic education from an Anabaptist perspective to Christian families in the Cypress Hills community. Our mission is to partner with parents in equipping their children to become lifetime learners who embrace Truth and **become servant-leaders.***

Views of leadership vary widely, from the boss who is always yelling at everyone to get to work, to the manager who spends most of his time in the break room while the workers work, to the business owner driving around in his expensive SUV while employees are paid a minimum wage. Occasionally students, when asked that they want to be when they grow up, will say, "I want to be the boss and tell everyone else what to do and make a lot of money."

Jesus view of leadership was dramatically different. He told his disciples, "*You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many*" (Matthew 20:25-28 NIV). He illustrated this throughout his ministry as he healed the sick, took time for children, and brought new hope and forgiveness to the lowest people of his day. Perhaps his most significant object lesson came when, at the Last Supper, he took time to wash his disciples feet because they were all too proud to volunteer to do this humble service.

In his article, "5 Reasons Why Servant Leadership Works,"¹ David Good writes, "If you see people as a means to serve you, then you are not a servant leader. I would call you a manager or simply a boss. If you view your role as a leader to empower others ... and [to] become better, more productive people in the process, then you are a servant leader." He notes further that servant-leaders encourage people to work together as a team and create an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect.

As our faculty teaches your children, they try to demonstrate by example what it means to be a servant-leader. Working for much less than they could earn in the public school, they challenge your children to success, staying after school to give individual help, coming in over spring break to help kids catch up, and in many other ways are pouring their lives out each day modeling servant-leadership.

Student leaders, such as the FJS Student Council are also encouraged to think about and practice servant-leadership as they plan events for their classmates.

Your children will be the leaders of tomorrow. What kind of parents, business managers, church and community leaders will they be. Bosses who lord it over others or true servant-leaders after the example of Jesus?

See you next week at parent conferences!

James E. Gochnauer, Principal

¹ Good, David, "5 Reasons Why Servant Leadership Works," Technorati, 28 June 2011, <http://technorati.com/business/gurus/article/5-reasons-why-servant-leadership-works/page-2/>, accessed 4 April 2013.