



Dwight Elementary School

2012 National Blue Ribbon School

1600 Redding Road
Fairfield, CT 06824



Mimi Maniscalco
Principal

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November, 2015

Dear Parents,

The last couple weeks have been very eventful at Dwight. Our Halloween parade and celebrations were wonderful fun for our students, staff and families. As I found myself surrounded by exuberant students dressed as different characters and creatures, I couldn't help but think that underneath the feathers and frill, they are venerable children of whom we are responsible to educate and protect every day. On the Friday of our lockdown, the protect part of our job took center stage. Our staff, students, Central Office and Fairfield Police Department worked in collaboration in order to keep everyone safe. Dwight parents respected the procedures and protocols which supported what we needed to do that day. Thank you. Thanks also for providing our staff a wonderful breakfast accompanied by the Buzz Truck!

The month of November brings many learning opportunities for you at Dwight. At our evening PTA meeting on November 4, we discussed the standards-based report card which is utilized at all of Fairfield's elementary schools. On November 13, we are inviting you to join us for coffee and conversation. The topic is digging deeper into iReady and STAR assessments which are part of your child's educational experience. Math Night is a Dwight tradition which brings our community together to play, investigate and celebrate mathematics and learning.

In December, we look forward to sharing the work our staff is engaged in this year regarding building student agency. We are utilizing **Opening Minds** by Peter Johnston as an anchor text. Our PTA has reserved space at Christies in Westport for our parent book club which will take place on December 3 at 7:00 PM. We look forward to rich conversation, sharing, and delicious food and drink.

Please remember that the holiday season is almost upon us. At present, we are collecting girls' dresses for the Bridgeport Rescue Mission. Later this month, we will collect canned good for Operation Hope; and in December, we will continue to support our sister school in Bridgeport, and collect coats for the needy. We believe that demonstrating care for our neighbors, will build students who are empathetic, empowered and creative problem solvers who will create a more peaceful and productive world.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mimi Maniscalco".

Mimi Maniscalco