

Good morning, it's January 24, 2013, and welcome to Panther News. I'm _____, _____th grade.

We have a special treat for you this morning. A clarinet trio from Mr. De La Garza's music class will play.

Welcome!

If you listened to President Obama's inaugural speech this past Monday, he used the phrase, "We, the people" five times. Where did he get this phrase, and why did he use it over and over?

He got the phrase from the Preamble to the United States Constitution. It is a brief introduction of the Constitution's purposes and principles. It states in general terms the Founding Fathers' intentions regarding the Constitution's meaning and what they hoped the Constitution would achieve.

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

The Preamble or introduction to the United States Constitution follows:

“We, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

President Obama used the phrase, “We, the people” over and over to make the point that the United States Government is for everyone ... not just for a select few. He quoted the Declaration of Independence's promise to every citizen the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

A few statements from his speech follow:

“Each time we gather to inaugurate a president, we bear witness to the enduring strength of our Constitution. We affirm the promise of our democracy.”

“ ... while freedom is a gift from God, it must be secured by His people here on Earth.”

“Now, more than ever, we must do these things together, as one nation, and one people.”

“My fellow Americans, we are made for this moment, and we will seize it – so long as we seize it together.”

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

And more statements from his speech follow:

“For we, the people, understand that our country cannot succeed when a shrinking few do very well and a growing many barely make it.”

“We know that America thrives when every person can find independence and pride in their work; when the wages of honest labor liberate families from the brink of hardship.”

“We must harness new ideas and technology to remake our government, revamp our tax code, reform our schools, and empower our citizens with the skills they need to work harder, learn more, and reach higher.”

Good morning, I'm _____,
____th grade.

And more statements from his speech follow:

“We, the people, still believe that every citizen deserves a basic measure of security and dignity.”

“We do not believe that in this country, freedom is reserved for the lucky, or happiness for the few.”

“We will show the courage to try and resolve our differences with other nations peacefully ...”

“Our journey is not complete until we find a better way to welcome the striving, hopeful immigrants who still see America as a land of opportunity ...”

Go online, and read our President's entire speech.

Good morning, I'm _____, ___ th grade.

We mentioned in our last broadcast that Mr. Chambers will be setting up “The Student Pledge Against Gun Violence” for us to sign. The pledge encourages young people to take a proactive stance in reducing gun violence.

The Pledge is a national observance giving students throughout the country the chance to sign a voluntary promise that they will: never carry a gun to school; never resolve a dispute with a gun; use their influence with their friends to keep them from resolving disputes with guns.

Go to Mr. Chambers’ classroom to sign the pledge. He will also be asking the student councils to help him distribute the pledges for signing. Sign the pledge, and then Mr. Chambers will report the number of pledges signed to “The Student Pledge Against Gun Violence” website.

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

Go to “whitehouse.gov”, and then look for “Now is the time to do something about gun violence”. Read about President Obama's plan to keep us and our communities safe by reducing gun violence, and then join the conversation.

We want to mention again some of the points of President Obama's plan to reduce gun violence: require background checks for all gun sales; strengthen the background check system for gun sales; pass a new, stronger ban on assault weapons; give law enforcement additional tools to prevent and prosecute gun crime; make our schools safer with new resource officers and counselors, better emergency response plans.

The second semester is going by quickly, and NOW is the time to improve your grades. If you have low or failing grades, you still have time to recover, or move them up to passing or better.

The first thing you need to tell yourself is that passing your classes and the STAAR exams is a requirement to move to the next grade. This is the only way, and a positive attitude or outlook is needed for positive results.

It's all about effort, and if you are not trying very hard, not caring, not paying attention ... not doing your homework, for example ... the only person you're hurting is yourself. And this "hurt" will be very real if you fail, and your classmates, friends and best friends pass, and move to the next grade ... leaving you behind.

According to the website, essortment.com ...

Today's society has become one of great competitiveness, and the need for good study habits and exceptional grades has become very important. Good grades are a reflection of more than just book knowledge. They also show skills that you take and apply to your adult life.

Good grades give you an edge in the work force that you wouldn't otherwise have. Good grades are a result of self-discipline. Those who know how to exercise self-control also have good organizational skills. For the most part, students with good grades know how to maintain order in their lives. They must know what to study, when to study, and for how long.

Taking advantage of education will make you an open-minded individual. Learning will allow you to expand your horizon. Colleges and later, employers, look for all of these qualities.

Some quick announcements:

The Primary Student Council is sponsoring the “Teddy Bears with Love Project” for the Sandy Hook Elementary students in Newtown, Connecticut. They are collecting teddy bears this month. Their plans are to send them to the Sandy Hook children for Valentine’s Day. Donate, and take your teddy bear to the gym area.

We have a new and improved website for Tejano Center for Community Concerns and Raul Yzaguirre School for Success. Check it out at tejanocenter.org.

Mr. Brown wants us to announce that the Service Learning Club will be meeting in his room every Wednesday from 4:15 to 4:45 to discuss and develop different service projects that will support the community.

Teachers please submit your students' writing to Mr. Chambers so we can then contact those students for our broadcasts. We would like for them to have an opportunity to "go live" ... read their compositions ... on PANTHER NEWS ... a great experience!

Again, our e-mail address so you can send your comments and submissions to PANTHER NEWS for broadcast consideration:

panthernewsreport@panthernewsreport.com

Please make sure that you are following the uniform code in your student handbook. Wear your ID badge at all times while on campus. Respect each other as you pass by in the hallways. Stay to your right, and NO BULLYING, please! If you see trash in the hallways of our buildings and anywhere on our campus, pick it up, and throw it in a garbage can.

Communities in Schools

Today: Reading Tutoring, Vocabulary Review, Homework Completion. College and Workforce Readiness – “College Internships”. Youth Development Enrichment – Dodge Ball, Xbox, Wii, Board Games.

Friday: Career Awareness – “Get the Math – Y4Y”. Homework Completion. Physical Activity – Soccer Scrimmage. Fine Arts Technology – Xbox, Wii.

Lunch Menu

Today: Taco Crispy or Chicken Enchilada, Refried Beans, Golden Corn, Rice Krispie Bar, Sliced Peaches.

Friday: Beef Patty and Cheese on Bun, Lettuce/Spinach Salad with Dressing, Baked Potato Wedges, Apple Cobbler.

That's all for now. We'll see you next Monday.
Have a great day, and study hard! Your future depends
on it!