

Recent Character Qualities connected to the Pyramid of Success (by Mr. Hutchinson, Guidance Counselor)

**December – Self-control**

Our students worked on understanding the importance of thinking before they acted. Through a simple game of “Mr. Hutch Says”, (a take-off of Simon Says), students quickly realized that there are consequences for every action - some good and some bad. As they get older they must understand that they are the ones that must live with these consequences. If you don’t learn to control yourself, you very well may give this control away to someone else.

**January – Alertness & Action**

Our students worked on staying focused in order to achieve a goal. As a class we set a timed goal to see how quickly we could pass a basketball around a circle of students in a set pattern. At first when the goal was easy to obtain the students seem to do well. However, once the goal became more demanding our students had to stay extra alert and ready to put their best skills to work. This concept is easily applied to the classroom. Many of our students can achieve average goals, but when goals are set higher then the level of focus must become higher.

**February – Determination**

Learning to work is our first goal, and then learning to work even when you don’t feel like it is our second goal. We will work through challenges that seem easy at first, but get increasing more difficult. We will discuss what happens when “the going gets tough”. It is easy for students to lose interest and they want to quit or make excuses for why they are no longer reaching their goals. That’s when we enter the topic of determination and its importance.