



Southport's 6th grade students enjoyed an engaging, positive, and busy day at the Guidance Department's annual Student Retreat! Students participated in various activities and games throughout the day as well as small group discussions where they

had the opportunity to learn about each other as well as themselves. They talked about likes and dislikes, shared personal stories and bonded together. Faculty and staff had the chance to make connections with students as well in their role as team leaders.

Students were divided into teams with an assigned faculty or staff team leader who facilitated the activities, games and discussions throughout the day. Each team participated in several team building activities, such as Building Bridges, where students had to work together to make a "bridge" of PVC pipes and get their team

members across. The students had to continue to build the bridge in front of the person walking across it without letting them fall. Teams also built obstacle courses, which they had to navigate while blindfolded, guided only

by the verbal direction of their teammates.

At the end of the day, students wrote letters to their future selves, which Guidance collects and returns to the students next school year. Each student also received Palanca letters, which are letters of love, support and encouragement from their teachers, school staff, parents and family members. This is a very special part of the retreat.

Our 6th grade students made great memories and hopefully lasting connections with their school, their teachers and their peers.

Southport Middle School Cafeteria was packed with fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, and other father figures who all took time off to spend quality time together with their children for National Dads Take Your Child to School Day. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful breakfast buffet prepared by the cafeteria staff and had a special time with their children. Dads Take Your Child to School Day is an event that promotes family involvement by encouraging fathers and significant father figures of all kinds to take their children to school.

The purpose of the Dads Take Your Child to School Day is to highlight the significant role a child's father or male role models have in enhancing their child's education. We were delighted with the turnout to this special event!











- To all the parents who came to our "Meet the Parents" night
- To all the dads, granddads, uncles, big brothers, and teachers who came to our Rollin' with Dads breakfast event.

The first two weeks of October in Florida schools are devoted to provide information about disability history and promote the awareness of the contributions of individuals with disabilities.

Southport is proud to participate in promoting awareness of disability history through facts on our morning news program. Did you know that one of every five Americans is a person with a disability? And that anyone could acquire a disability



BE PART OF DISABILITY
AWARENESS MONTH

through an accident or illness, or may acquire a disability simply as a part of growing older. We have also featured videos of famous faces who have overcome their disabilities.

The Mission Statement of Southport Middle School is to inspire and empower compassionate, global learn-ers who are committed to creating a better and more peaceful world. Disability Awareness Month provides an ideal opportunity to support our mission.

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