



SCOTTSDALE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

A Great Hearts Academy

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Dear Scottsdale Prep Middle School Parents,

On Tuesday, January 15th, the Scottsdale Prep students participated in our 3rd Quarter Spartan Tribe Activity. The activity took a unique turn as we decided to let the newly appointed Archon Leadership Group plan the Middle School portion. We had several planning meetings in which the Archon Group developed a solid activity. Mr. Gilfillan liked Archon's idea and adopted it for the High School as well. In a very real sense, the 8 members of the Middle School Archon Leadership Group crafted the Spartan Tribe Activity for the entire school. Words cannot express the pride I felt in the Archon Group knowing the impact they had on the school as a whole. They are an amazing group of leaders and working with them makes me confident that our school is in safe hands for many years to come.

The Scottsdale Prep Leadership Team has adopted a Thematic Goal for the 2018-2019 school year: Habituating Virtue for The Sake of Community. The defining objectives of the Thematic Goal are: Comportment, Stewardship, Inspiration, **Conversation**, and Preparedness. Each member of the faculty was selected to serve in a "House" that supported one of the five defining objectives. My message today will focus on **Conversation**. The purpose of the Conversation Objective is to promote right speech and good habits in conversation both in and out of the classroom. The school leaders are observing conversations in classrooms and providing feedback, observing teacher comportment outside of classrooms and in the presence of students and highlighting examples of inspiration. The teachers are modeling kindness and proper speech in all conversations, having awareness of conversations in and out of the classroom and addressing student violations when necessary. The students are inclusive, engaging, and respectful in all conversations, thinking critically before asking questions and going to their texts for evidence. We will continue to strive for our Conversation Defining Objective throughout the school year. I will report on the remaining defining objective next time.

Please feel free to contact me with any middle school questions or concerns.

Respectfully yours,

Rich Gale
MS Assistant Headmaster