



SCOTTSDALE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

A Great Hearts Academy

16537 North 92nd Street | Scottsdale, AZ 85260 | Office: (480) 776-1970 | Fax: (480) 476-1975 | www.scottsdaleprep.org

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Dear Scottsdale Prep Middle School Parents,

As you know, Scottsdale Prep 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**. This spring, we continue our focus on the structures and order that are crucial to preparedness. Recently, our shadow students remarked about distinct way we transition our middle school students into the classroom, and it reminded me that these intentional practices are vital to the order that ensues as students enter the classroom.

The purpose of the Preparedness objective is to transition students from a passing period/Lyceum/lunch demeanor into a “prepared to learn” demeanor. The teachers are setting pre-class and entry protocol expectations, guiding and modeling behaviors expected of students, holding students accountable for adjusting class entry and start-up expectations. The students are adjusting behaviors and entering appropriately. It has been a pleasure sharing the defining objectives of our Thematic Goal during the past several months, and I hope you will reach out to me with any questions about them.

Recently, we were honored to host the President of the University of Arizona on our campus to talk to our students. Although I can think of many reasons for him to visit us, I wondered what official reason would be given by his entourage. The representative from his team emphasized that the results were not just based on the number of students from our school who attend the university, but also the academic success the students have demonstrated when they matriculate to U of A. Scottsdale Prep was ranked at the top in the valley by U of A in sending successful students to their campus. As an administrator at our school, I love to boast about our high-achieving and great-hearted students at any opportunity! We are proud of their accomplishments, and we are delighted to hear of their success in college.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any middle school questions or concerns.

Respectfully yours,

Rich Gale