

Dear Parents Teachers, and PEAKers,

Last week PEAK students completed all the unfinished business surrounding their Night Sky unit of study. Student teams worked together to analyze the data they received on their evaluation rubrics. Students entered their data into an Excel spreadsheet and created average scores for all 8 criteria evaluated. This effort provided the students with much feedback about where we excelled and where we can improve! Students also filled out an end-of-unit survey, which provides me with valuable feedback regarding what worked, what could be better, and how I'm doing as their teacher. If you haven't completed the <u>parent survey</u>, there is still time! Thanks! Finally, students made some creative and thoughtful Thank You cards to both Dr. Kelly Cline at Carroll College, who sponsored our event, and to Terry and Mary from the Helena Astronomical Society!

This week we will really get started on our Independent Study unit which will focus on 21st Century Medicine! I was able to give the students a couple of examples and had them buzzing about possible ideas. I even gave them some **HOMEWORK!** They are to be thinking about and talking with families about possible ideas for their Independent Study topic. I'm hoping students bring their ideas to PEAK next week where we will discuss them further and generate more possible topic ideas. Each class will conduct a brainstorming session creating a huge list of thoughts and ideas. Hopefully, this will energize and inspire students about a topic. Next, students will begin some basic research on a few narrowed down topic ideas, looking for information and using that information to decide on a single topic!

At the end of the day, students will have an opportunity to present something they learned about their topic to their classmates. They will be using a microphone and speaker to do so, giving them some experience speaking with this type of media. This will prepare them for their upcoming professional presentation they will be giving on all the amazing advances in medical science. Let's get ready!

This Week's Activities: (Feb. 13 – Feb. 17)

Creativity: Brainstorming - I can participate in a brainstorm using the 3 rules of brainstorming.	All the Possibilities! – Students will learn the 3 rules to brainstorming, conduct a class-wide brainstorm and help in the development of a list of possible topic ideas.
Research: Online - I can effectively navigate the internet and collect and cite relevant research with minimal (or no) teacher guidance.	<u>Time to Dig In!</u> – Students will use internet resources to gather information about several ideas before deciding which topic they will focus on for their Independent Study.
Communication/Technology – I can effectively use a variety of hardware with teacher guidance to present information to an audience.	Presenting Information through Technology – Students will create a short presentation for their classmates using a microphone and speaker, providing them practice using these types of devices.

We're off again!

Mr. Currier

PEAK Calendar – Winter 2023

13	14	15	16	17	
Central Four Georgians Kessler	Jefferson Bryant	Hawthorne Rossiter Smith	Broadwater Jim Darcy Warren		
20	21	22	23	24	
President's Day No School!	Jefferson Bryant Central Four Georgians Kessler	Hawthorne Rossiter Smith	Broadwater Jim Darcy Warren		
27	28	MAR 1	2	3	
Central Four Georgians Kessler	Jefferson Bryant	Hawthorne Rossiter Smith	Broadwater Jim Darcy Warren		
6	7	8	9	10	
Central Four Georgians Kessler	Jefferson Bryant	Hawthorne Rossiter Smith	Broadwater Jim Darcy Warren		
13	14	15	16	17	
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20	21	22	23	24	
2 nd Grade Screening – No PEAK (GT staff in schools)					
27	28	29	30	31	
Spring Break - No School					
APR 3	4	5	6	7	
Central Four Georgians Kessler	Jefferson Bryant	Hawthorne Rossiter Smith	Broadwater Jim Darcy Warren		
10	11	12	13	14	
Central Four Georgians Kessler	Jefferson Bryant	Hawthorne Rossiter Smith	Broadwater Jim Darcy Warren		