

## Superintendent's Highlight of the Week November 4, 2016

Last week Mattlin was washed in Mattlin Pride as they celebrated various ways to demonstrate their theme. Throughout the week, students in the fifth through eighth grade participated in activities that captured Mattlin PRIDE, and helped build leadership and teamwork skills. PRIDE week aims to build a sense of school culture and spirit among the students. Each team participated in dress-up days, including dressing in team colors, wearing a favorite hero shirt, pajamas, sport team and finally their PRIDE shirt. Each grade level created a showcase and decorated their hallways. The fifth grade showcase took my breath away with a theme of "Pride lifts our whole house". Each student wrote messages that reflect their thoughts on the theme on individual balloons, shown here.



On Friday, they held their inaugural "Shark Tank, Charity Edition" as a culminating event to their PRIDE Week festivities. Students in grades 5-8 worked all week with grade advisors researching and preparing a presentation to pitch to their peers and a panel of sharks - represented by teachers and District administrators. A group of students used posters, handouts and other visual presentations, developed with their Chromebooks, to pitch their idea to the panel of "sharks." Based on these presentations, the sharks chose two charities, Sunrise Day Camp and NAMI, to which we will make a school-wide contribution. Our goal was to teach students the importance of service and charity.

After celebrating a week of P.R.I.D.E. (Personal best, Respect, Impulse control, Decision-making, and Empathy) the students participated in PRIDE Night, the ultimate end to a week of spirit and character development. Teams competed in multiple events to win points for their team including, "Minute to Win It," "Hula Hoop Chain Game," "Over/Under" and a "Three-Legged Challenge." The winning team is announced at the conclusion of the evening.



The activity will help teach students about the importance of service to their community, country and world. A fitting lesson as we head into election week.