A Message from Mr. Keegan



Developing Grit in Our Adolescent Learners

Summer '24

"When nothing seems to help, I go look at a stonecutter hammering away at his rock perhaps a hundred times without as much as a crack showing in it. Yet at the hundred and first blow it will split in two, and I know it was not that blow that did it, but all that had gone before."

Jacob Riis
The Stonecutters Credo

This quote serves as a strong reminder of the role of grit in the lives of our students and the professionals who support them each day. For my part as a school leader, it is critical that I set high expectations, while building scaffolds that allow students and staff to meet lofty standards. Equally important, however, is the promotion of skills which will allow students to persevere in the face of adversity; to accept challenges willingly; to reboot after perceived failure. In the words of Dr. Kevin Sheehan, our students need to learn to "fail well."

As parents, you play an incredibly important role in promoting grit. Please be sure to take a look at the article linked here and some of the resources included below.

[The Power of Defeat: How to Raise a Child with Grit]

[The Character Lab & Grit]

As always, thank you for your support.

Mr. Keegan

