

Principally Speaking

Thanksgiving

As we approach the traditional Holiday season, it reminds us to reflect on our lives and consider all of those things we have to be “Thankful” for. I am going to list some of the many things that I am thankful for, and ask you to take the time during the upcoming weeks to think about those things for which you “give thanks.” I know that there are things in life that we are not thankful for, and I am not suggesting that anyone look beyond the circumstances and conditions that cause distress in our lives. We spend tremendous amounts of time and energy dealing with problems, and they certainly must be dealt with. But this is the “season for giving,” so we should all try to give ourselves a reason to smile.

I am Thankful for –

The love and friendship of my wife, Renee - my best friend in this world. She shares all my joys and sorrows, brings purpose to my life, and makes me a better person.

My wonderful family. They have made my life full and exciting. Grandkids are AWESOME!

The direction and guidance I received from my parents and teachers. They challenged me to be the best student and person I could be. I will always be thankful for the direction they provided in my life. They kindled a flame for learning that burns within me still.

The wonder of life: childhood, adolescence, young adulthood, and all the uncertainty and self-doubt that fill our early years. My own experiences help me as I work with students facing many of the same issues.

My many and varied career experiences. Student, teacher, coach and principal. All of these experiences have given me an appreciation and respect for people and life.

My health.

The opportunity to inspire students to “GBED” in a variety of communities. While I wish that no child would ever be born into poverty, abuse, neglect or violence, I am thankful for the opportunity to try to make a difference in the life of even 1 student.

Avon Lake. I know you knew that was coming. How could I not be thankful? We’ve got a great staff, great families and a great campus. But, most of all, we’ve got the best students any school could ever ask for. No one is perfect – not even you. But you know what your parents and your school expects, and (for the most part) you fulfill those expectations. I’m proud of you, and I’m thankful for you.

Have a great Holiday season. See you at one of our many Holiday events!
GBED! Peace on Earth.