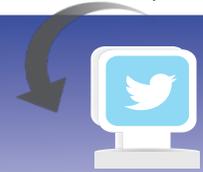


The Monti Navigator

Be Greater than the Average



Tammy Mangus, Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Member of the Monticello Community,

Be Unlikely.

The bandwagon has always been a curious thing to me.
Without much thought of point or purpose,
history has seen folks jump on board to share in the energy and momentum of its inertia.

The more passengers the bandwagon totes, the louder the noise.
And since loud must surely mean powerful, more jump aboard.
Careening with its chatter and banter, the group rolls along....

That is, until a louder wagon arrives for folks to jump on.

The bandwagon thrives on drama.
Its fuel is ego, half-truths, the latest sound byte and narcissism.
It steers us to the glitz and glamour of the "15 minutes of fame."

Pursuit of popularity is an interesting thing.

We all want our moment, right?

But this is not where inspiration lives.

Inspiration lives in point and purpose.

It thrives through the pursuit of things thought impossible...

It seeks to build up, not tear down.

It seeks to do great things with great purpose.

It expects to have to prove its successes.

It expects that the road will be long and lonely sometimes.

But with point and purpose, it plods on.

It's likely that tradition will win most of the time....

It's always been done that way after all.

It's likely that what is popular will win out over what is right...

It's hard to hear facts when there is so much chatter.

It's likely that naysayers without point or purpose (other than their own comfort)

Will seek to stifle great expectations.

It's likely that folks will say we can't.

But the likely is never inspiring.

It never becomes the stuff of legend.

It never changes a single perception or outcome.

In fact, it seeks to protect mediocrity.

We are better than that.

Let's inspire.

Let's do great things.

Let's be unlikely.

Be well,

Tammy Mangus | Superintendent of Schools