



2013 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ART, WRITING, & MULTIMEDIA CONTEST

ANN KELEMEN (7TH GRADE)
WARNER MIDDLE SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL – MIKE EARLEY
TEACHER – DIONE GREENBERG

To me, the drum major instinct is more than just the desire to be a leader. The drum major instinct is the impulse to be helpful and kind to one another. To be a “drum major” you must take responsibility for your actions, and sometimes those of your followers. You must be respectful to everyone and treat all equally. The “drum major’s” reaction determines the reaction of the surrounding people.

Peace, justice and righteousness all start with me. In order to bring these great qualities into our school and community, I must set an example and remain positive throughout the difficulties we may endure. Though it may be hard at times, I must always be looking toward the favorable side of everything. I must show respect myself and towards others before I try to get anyone else to do so. I fully believe that in order to start a movement for a good cause, one person has to show that he or she is fully committed to this cause. That person has to do what he or she is trying to get others to do. In other words, “practice what you preach”.

To bring peace into our school and community, I will encourage people to show consideration for other’s feelings and talk through disagreements instead of arguing. We should explain our thoughts to the other person and then talk to them about their thoughts. This is almost always the solution for disagreements. I will also discourage physical contact between students, whether it is loving or violent, during school. If everyone comes on board with this plan, our school and community would be a much more peaceful place.

To bring justice into our school and community, I will encourage students and citizens to exhibit positive behavior. Also, I will discourage the use of foul language towards other students and citizens. The staff can punish the students who are disruptive. However, there is not always an authoritative figure around to take disciplinary action and we need to come together to stop it. Lastly, I will encourage students to stand up for each other and for the good of the community. We can do this by reporting drugs, violence and bullying to a counselor, teacher or other school staff members.

To bring righteousness to our school and community, I will encourage students to make sure that their feelings and actions toward people are not vengeful. It is not wrong to be angry with someone, but what you do with your anger could be. Again, the best way to resolve a disagreement is through discussion. Also, I will encourage people to consider the possibility that the situation may not have anything to do with them. People may sometimes be preoccupied with something else going on in their life and they may not realize that they have been offensive. However, we can’t depend on others to always do the right thing. We must be ready to take the first step and be the bigger person.

Drum Major Instinct

