GENIUS HOUR

Dear Parents,

Something exciting is happening in our fourth grade class! Recently I introduced the students to GENIUS HOUR!

**What is Genius Hour?**

Genius Hour is time set aside in class for students to study their passion on a new idea or skill once a week for a set amount of time.

**Why is Genius Hour important?**

Students take ownership in their own learning. They learn about something they want to learn about. Genius Hour sparks curiosity, and students have an opportunity to become their own Genius. Genius Hour encourages life-long learning, imagination, perseverance, self-awareness, adaptability, as well as other life-lessons.

**How will Genius Hour work in my classroom?**

Students will participate in Genius Hour every Wednesday afternoon. After mini-lessons on what is appropriate, students will choose a topic to study with Teacher Approval. They will each create a “driving question,” one that will guide the research. Students will be given time in class to work on the project with the teacher serving as a Facilitator. The Facilitator will provide research materials (ie., books, computer, iPads, etc.) for students to explore. The students are welcome to work on this at home as well. As an end project, students must present their topic to an audience.

I am excited to share this opportunity with your child! I am sure we will need to tweak things along the way as we embark on this new adventure in 4th grade.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Karla Hebert

