Good morning,

I hope everyone had a great weekend. I realize this is a difficult time of the year with only ten school days remaining before we are home for the Holidays. I want to encourage you to stay focused and try to keep the students on course so they can finish strong before the break.

Last week, I had the opportunity to observe classrooms throughout the district. I wanted to observe our staff interaction with students to gauge whether we are properly engaging our students. I am happy to report that I personally witnessed this occurring in many of the classrooms. I will continue to take opportunities to observe classrooms throughout the school year and I look forward to seeing how you engage students.

I’d like to take a moment to emphasize two specific areas that I feel are important within the classroom. First, I encourage you to teach bell to bell. In the grand scheme, we don’t get that much instructional time with our students so every minute in the classroom is important. The other area of emphasis is the daily preparation for class. Although I saw great teaching and learning, I would like to encourage you to fully prepare for each class period to ensure that we are covering the state standards and that our students are receiving our best each day.

In closing, the central office administration has moved back downtown to the Education Service Center at 202 W. Broadway. Everyone moved into their offices on Friday and most have unpacked. We are planning to host an Open House for the community on Tuesday, January 28th, 2020 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. There will be more on this later but I wanted to make sure everyone had the date in case you wanted to attend.

Thank you for everything that you do!

Sincerely,
Jarod Mendenhall, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Muskogee Public Schools