



# **MITCHELL SCHOOL DISTRICT 17-2**

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## **MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL**

**Justin Siemsen, Principal**

**Bobby Reindl and Shane Thill, Assistant Principals**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you feeling well and as excited for the new school year as we are. As we begin the year, I wanted to introduce you to a remarkable book that has the potential to shape not only our students' lives but also our community's lives. It is called "The Coffee Bean," written by Jon Gordon.

"The Coffee Bean" is a captivating and inspiring parable that offers powerful life lessons in a simple and relatable way. In the book, the coffee bean serves as a metaphor for how we can approach challenges and transform ourselves and our environment.

The story revolves around a young boy who is struggling with the negative atmosphere in his school. The boy meets an unlikely mentor—a wise janitor who introduces him to the concept of being a coffee bean. In the boiling water, the coffee bean transforms the water into something new—coffee. This powerful metaphor represents our ability to influence and change the world around us, even when faced with difficult circumstances.

Through its engaging narrative, "The Coffee Bean" teaches invaluable life lessons, such as:

- **The Power of Perspective:** The book emphasizes the importance of shifting our perspective and choosing a positive outlook. By focusing on the good, we can transform negative situations into opportunities for growth and change.
- **Taking Responsibility:** The coffee bean encourages us to take ownership of our actions and the impact we have on our environment. It inspires accountability and empowers us to make a positive difference in our school, community, and beyond.
- **Resilience and Adaptability:** Like the coffee bean, we learn the importance of resilience and adaptability in the face of adversity. By embracing challenges and finding creative solutions, we can successfully overcome obstacles and flourish.
- **Creating a Positive Culture:** "The Coffee Bean" teaches us that each one of us has the power to create a positive culture in our school and community. By radiating kindness, empathy, and encouragement, we can inspire others and foster an inclusive and supportive environment.

As parents, your involvement and support play a pivotal role in reinforcing the values and lessons our children learn at school. I encourage you to engage in discussions with your children about the book's themes and explore ways to apply these principles in your daily lives. Perhaps, you can even read "The Coffee Bean" together as a family and embark on a shared journey of growth and transformation.

At our school, we are excited to incorporate "The Coffee Bean" into our curriculum and extracurricular activities. We believe that instilling these powerful life lessons will not only equip our students with the tools they need to thrive academically but also prepare them to become compassionate, resilient, and proactive individuals in society. I highly recommend "The Coffee Bean" to all parents who seek to foster a positive mindset, resilience, and a sense of responsibility in their children. Let us work together to nurture a community that embraces change, spreads kindness, and empowers our young minds to become catalysts for a better world.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in creating an exceptional educational experience for our students.

Warm regards,

Justin Siemsen  
High School Principal