



**Richards Middle School**  
An International Baccalaureate School

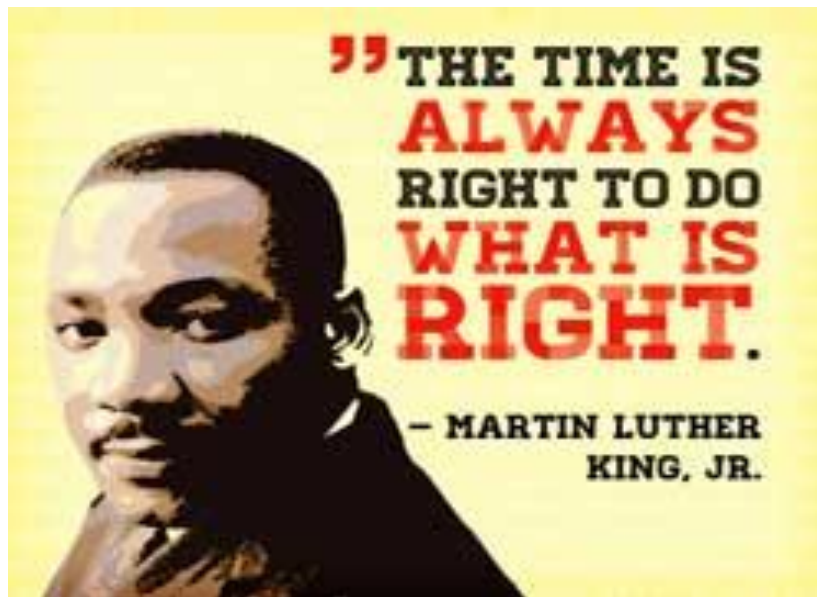


Sunday, January 14, 2018

**Richards Middle School Warrior Weekly**

<http://richardsmcsdga.com> (706) 569-3697

**Monday, January 15, 2018**  
**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**  
**No School**



**REPPIN' RICHARDS**

**R**esponsibility  
**E**xcellence  
**P**rofessionalism

**Integrity - (noun) – Being reflective means having the integrity to keep an eye on yourself while you're doing what you are doing. It's as if you're holding up a mirror and evaluating your thoughts, feelings, and behaviors even as you're going about everyday life.**

When you are Reflective, Integrity looks like:

Thinking about where you came from

Examining where you are now

Seeing where you want to be in the future

**Report Cards go home January 16, 2018**



Richards is a PBIS and IB World School where we strive to emphasize growth of the whole person: intellectual, personal, emotional and social.

*"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"*

*- Martin Luther King, Jr.*

### Catch of a lifetime: A Story of Integrity

He was eleven years old and went fishing every chance he got from the dock at his family's cabin on an island in the middle of a New Hampshire lake.

On the day before the bass season opened, he and his father were fishing early in the evening, catching sunfish and perch with worms. Then he tied a small silver lure and practiced casting. The lure struck the water and caused colored ripples in the sunset, then silver ripples as the moon rose over the lake.

When his pole doubled over, he knew something huge was on the other end. His father watched with admiration as the boy skillfully worked the fish alongside the dock.

Finally, he very gingerly lifted the exhausted fish from the water. It was the largest one he had ever seen, but it was a bass.

The boy and his father looked at the handsome fish, gills playing back and forth in the moonlight. The father lit a match and looked at his watch. It was 10 p.m. – two hours before the season opened. He looked at the fish, then at the boy.

"you'll have to put it back, son," he said.

"dad!" Cried the boy.

"there will be other fish," said his father.

"not as big as this one," cried the boy.

He looked around the lake. No other fishermen or boats were anywhere around in the moonlight. He looked again at his father.

(Continued on back)

## Upcoming Events

**Monday, January 15– Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No School**

**Tuesday, January 16** – 8:00 am - Science Bowl Rm 211

8:00 am Model UN— Rm 100

4:15-5:30 - Weekly Orchestra rehearsal resumes for all 7th and 8th grade students

**Wednesday, January 17** – 8:00 am -Academic Bowl Team in Rm 101

8 am Media Center - Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl

4:15 – 4:45 pm – NJHS – Media Center

4:15 – 6:00 pm – Debate Team Rm 225

5:30 pm – Basketball - Fort vs. **Richards at Richards**

**Thursday, January 18** – Math Team Meeting - 4:00-5:00 pm, Room 217

**4:15 – 5:30 pm** – Debate Team Rm 225

**Friday, January 19** – 8 am Media Center - Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl

4:10 – 6:10 pm - Friday Evening School

5:30 pm – Basketball - Midland vs. **Richards at Richards**



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Even though no one had seen them, nor could anyone ever know what time he caught the fish, the boy could tell by the clarity of his father's voice that the decision was not negotiable. He slowly worked the hook out of the lip of the huge bass and lowered it into the black water.

The creature swished its powerful body and disappeared. The boy suspected that he would never again see such a great fish. That was 34 years ago. Today, the boy is a successful architect in New York City. His father's cabin is still there on the island in the middle of the lake. He takes his own son and daughters fishing from the same dock. And he was right. He has never again caught such a magnificent fish as the one he landed that night long ago. But he does see that same fish – again and again – every time he comes up against a question of ethics. For, as his father taught him, ethics are simple matters of right and wrong. It is only the practice of ethics that is difficult. Do we do right when no one is looking? Do we refuse to cut corners to get the design in on time? Or refuse to trade stocks based on information that we know we aren't supposed to have?

We would if we were taught to put the fish back when we were young. For we would have learned the truth. The decision to do right lives fresh and fragrant in our memory. It is a story we will proudly tell our friends and grandchildren. Not about how we had a chance to beat the system and took it, but about how we did the right thing and were forever strengthened.

**Source | the Catch of a Lifetime by James P. Lenfestey**

1. Do we do right when no one is looking?
2. Do we refuse to cut corners to get the design in on time?
3. Do we refuse to trade stocks based on information that we know we aren't supposed to have?



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