Dear RMSEL Parent Community,

Last evening three teams of RMSEL students and staff were selected to participate in an exciting live project at George Washington High School. “Think It Up Live,” is similar to the hit TV series “Shark Tank” where an individual and/or team delivers a pitch to a potential group of investors. Seventy five teams were in attendance from around the state of Colorado to compete in this event. Each team was given 40 minutes to think up a project that they could implement at their school. The design of each project was completely open ended; students could pitch a project directly tied to an in-class science experiment to the organization of an event in their local community to support a grassroots level effort that could positively impact their school culture.

Each team brainstormed with a teacher and designed a presentation to a group of mentors. The team of mentors then selected a finalist from each competing pod to present as a finalist. While none of our teams were selected as a finalist at the event, the energy in the room was infectious. Three hundred seventy five teachers and students were collaborating with one another designing meaningful projects to positively impact their respective schools. Final projects that were selected from the evening received start-up funding to implement their respective project. I was proud to be on-hand to observe the energy and excitement amongst our teams competing in this event.

In addition to this exciting event, December is a busy month in your households and at school. Next week we will host two events at RMSEL prior to Winter Break. On the evening of Wednesday, December 16, 2015 beginning at 5:00 pm the lower school teachers and students will present final products and artifacts from their respective learning expeditions during Exhibition Night. Following Exhibition Night on Thursday, December 17, 2015, our high school students will be performing and presenting at Elective Showcase beginning at 5:30 pm. These events are showcases of the high quality work completed by our students during the first half of the school year.

Please mark your calendars for two important dates:

Friday, December 18, 2015 – ½ School Day – 11:40 am Dismissal

Monday, January 4, 2016 – Return to School for Students and Staff (No Professional Development)

Happy Holidays,

Chad