



Principal Corner for September 14 **Serving the Others**

Two of our SCCS dads are using their education, experience, training and leadership skills to help people in the Bahamas to begin to recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Dorian.

Jake Gillanders, father of Emmerson in 4th grade and present SCCS School Commission member, is a Captain at Poulsbo Fire District #18. In addition to his work at the fire department, Jake is the executive director of Empact Northwest, an emergency support not-for-profit organization. Jake's wife KJ is a K9 Handler with the team. Jake spoke with our students two years ago about his relief work in Haiti.

Architect Jim Riley is the father of Nolan in 4th grade and Anna in 7th grade. Last year he talked to our 5th/6th grade STEM class about requirements for constructing buildings in regions prone to earthquakes; he brought architectural drawings and models. Jim trained with Jake this past year so he could use his skills to support the relief effort.

"Jake and Jim went to Abaco Island. They have done survey work in Cay and Cooperstown because no one had been there yet to assess the damage. They are heading to Treasure tomorrow to do search and rescue work. When they arrive they talk with local authorities and receive assignments. At this point, they find out day-to-day where they will be needed. Time in disaster zones takes a toll on the rescuers. Generally they do not get much sleep; they work long days" (KJ Gillanders).

Jake Gillanders and Jim Riley generously shared their expertise to support people in need. We are deeply grateful for their service. Our students learn to serve others by the example of all parents in our school community.

We continue to hold the people of the Bahamas and the emergency relief supporters in our prayers as they continue dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian.

With gratitude,
Susan Kilbane