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“What does that mean?” This one may take a while.

“Right... just sit tight Jeremy. I’ll help you after the announcements.” He’s going to be late.

“Mr. M, I saved my work on a memory stick but now it’s saying it can’t open.”

“What version of Office do you have at home?” This is always cause for alarm bells.

“I did it on a Mac.” Ouch...this isn’t going to end well, but I stay positive under fire.

“Okay, just wait until after announcements, then I’ll see what I can do. You know how to work the copier right? Okay, go help Jeremy please.”

“Can you proofread this real quick Mr. M?”

“When is it due?” Don’t say period one, don’t say period one.

“Period one.” Cripes.

8:10 AM

Announcements begin and I have five minutes to think about the phrase Power @ your library. I still have no idea what it means, but I mull it over.

8:15 AM

A series of phone calls begin that will continue intermittently for the rest of the day. The requests inevitably become stranger as the day progresses.

“Can you reset Derek’s password, oh and Julie Hendriks can’t remember her username if you could look that up for her?”

“I’m sending down Johnny to check out another book, he doesn’t like the one he has. Can you pick a novel for him that he will like?”

“Do you have anything on Ukrainian immigration in the 1950s in Saskatchewan?”

“I need Billy to come down there and work.”

I know Billy, but I ask anyway.

“Because if he stays my classroom, I’m going to do something unbecoming of a music teacher.”

Thought so.

8:30 AM

I have forgotten to call the teachers about booking research time and I write a sticky note as a reminder to do it later in the day. I throw out all the other sticky notes covering the edges of the monitor, reminders of things I didn’t do from before the holidays. They have reached their life expectancy.

8:45 AM

In between computer support calls, I am able to help the class that is in the library researching the Great Depression. Somehow the notion has developed amongst staff that I am a computer whiz and have a level- five security clearance with the school board. In reality, I know just enough to fool the average English teacher, but the myth is perpetuated because I’m on a first name basis with the tech guy at the help desk.

9:30 AM

Period two at last! I was going to work on cataloguing some recently purchased books but the creative writing class is here and they all need help choosing engaging, richly fulfilling, life-changing independent study novels. No problem ... sticky note to self ... process books after lunch.

10:55 AM

Lunch! A good chance to reflect on the morning and perhaps give some thought to the Power @ Your Library statement. Maybe it’s not a statement but more of a question.