***PERSUASIVE PARAGRAPHS***

Definition:

A persuasive paragraph uses reasons and examples to convince readers a particular opinion is valid. A persuasive paragraph may be one part of a longer piece of writing, such as a persuasive essay or letter.

When You Write:

1. State your opinion as clearly as you can.
2. You can support your opinion with logical reasons and solid information. Avoid angry or inflammatory words and cheap appeals to emotions or prejudices. You can also give specific examples or details to try to convince the reader.

If there is something fair to say in favor of an opponent’s position, state it. Try to show, however, how your position is the better one.

Example of **Persuasive paragraphs**:

**Skateboarding in the Halls**

     Why can’t we skateboard in the halls?  I think we should be able to skateboard in the halls because then we would be more active.  It would help us get to class quicker.  We could learn about teaching by demonstrating how to do tricks to younger students.  We could have competitions with other schools.  It could even be part of gym class.  Some kids who walk to school could skateboard instead so they won’t be late as often.  We could help teachers too by helping them move things using our skateboards.  Students should have permission to use skateboards in the halls.

**Writing Assignment:**

1. Write a persuasion paragraph for something you want. Some possibilities are:

~a letter to your parents to persuade them to increase your allowance

~a letter to your parents to persuade them to buy you a car

~a letter to your parents to let you go on a trip to Europe

~a letter to the teacher to persuade him/her to give you less homework

~a letter to the principal to remove the hat rule

~a letter to a boy/girl to persuade him/her to go out with you

~another possibility