

Kennedy News

Volume 3

December 12, 2008

INTRODUCING!

Welcome to our new secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Lisiscki! Mrs. Lisiscki, who is known as Liz to her friends and family, has been active in the district's PTA for many years. She has two children in the school district, one at the middle school and one at FHS. Mrs. Lisiscki is replacing Patti Skop, who has been promoted to a University High School secretarial position as well as working part time at the Harding Offices. We will miss our Mrs. Skop and wish her the best in her new position at UHS.

End of the Day Changes

Every day the office receives between 20-30 phone calls from parents who want to change the end of the day pick up for their children. While this is understandable in some cases, the office cannot deliver personal messages to children except in cases of an emergency. The office contacts the classrooms the same way you do, through voice mail, and then reminds teachers to check voice mail at about 3PM. To get to your teacher's voice mailbox, dial 248-547-0880 and press option 1 to dial by name or extension. To avoid cases of miscommunication, please try to be clear with your children on their after school plans before they come to school in the morning. That would be a great help!

Outside Winter Recess

Please remember to send your child to school dressed appropriately for the winter weather. Even if the forecast calls for a mild day, lunch recess can be very chilly. Make sure your child has his/her jacket, gloves, hat, and boots when needed. Our students will have an outdoor recess on all days 20 degrees or more, except in cases when the playground is unsafe due to icy conditions. Generally speaking, if your child is well enough to be at school, they are well enough to go outside. Of course, there are always circumstances when a child may not be outside even on a mild day. Please send a note to your child's teacher on those days.

Safety

Please remember that we cannot release your child to

anyone who is not listed on his/her emergency card, unless you communicate that wish to the office. You may stop by the office at any time to update your child's emergency card. In emergency situations, you can call the office to let us know who will be picking up your child if they are not on the emergency card.

Calling all Photographers

Parents often take photographs during student presentations, field trips, concerts, and parties at school. Teachers love to put pictures on their class web sites but often lack time to take the pictures themselves. Please share your great pictures with teachers and also with Jessica Stilger, the district communications specialist, who will put the photos in district newsletters. Her email is jscott@ferndaleschools.org. If you also want to share them with me, I can put them on my website, or on the district's

Kennedy website. Please note that only those students with communication release form approvals will have their pictures posted on websites and no names will be used.



Staff News



From Mrs. Walimaa in the art room:

THANK YOU PARENTS for the many terrific art room donations! We are working on several different projects in the different grade levels, so you may find a self-portrait, a clay pot, a cave drawing, or a robot made up of recycled parts show up in your home soon. Thank you to Anne St. Peter for the robot idea! She will be displaying student robots at the Pinwheel Bakery in downtown Ferndale throughout the holidays, so feel free to bring your child's robot in to her store! And an extra special thank you to Melissa Wilson and Denise Johnson for volunteering their time to clean shelves and organize the art room for the children and me.

Lost and Found

Next time you are in the building, please don't forget to check our lost and found located in two places, outside the cafeteria and the office. Over the past few months we have collected a large number of hats, gloves, and jackets. Please identify your child's clothing if possible. That will make returning items to owners so much easier! Also, to eliminate the confusion of so many "look-alike" lunch boxes/bags, please clearly identify your child's lunch by writing his/her full name and room number on the inside of it.

Indoor Recess Volunteers

As you know, students participate in outside lunch recess everyday. However, there are times when it is raining or extremely cold and children remain inside. When this happens, we are always in need of extra volunteers to assist lunch aides inside the classrooms during the lunch period (11:00-11:50 and 12:00-12:50 PM). If you are available and can assist us on indoor days, please call the main office at 248-586-8777 and leave a message with our secretaries. We will add you to our volunteer list and contact you on days when children stay inside.

Attendance

Please report your child's absence at 248-547-0880 (press 2). Also, call that number if your child is going to be late and needs a hot lunch. Thank you for your cooperation!



Dates to Remember

December 17: Holiday Shop in the gym; 8:30-3:00PM

December 17: Building Tour; 9AM

December 18: Fifth and sixth grade band & orchestra concert with the combined Coolidge and JFK students; FHS auditorium at 7PM

December 19: Half day of school; dismissal at 11:18AM

December 22-January 2, 2009: Winter Break

January 5: Back to School!

January 6: JFK MAP/PTA/PAC meetings; 5:30/6:30/7:30PM

January 8: Eagle's Nest Banking Day at JFK; 9:00-10:30PM

January 13: JFK Vocal Concert for grades 3 & 4 and choirs, 6:30PM in the cafeteria

January 14: Building Tour; 9AM

January 19: No School! Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 23: No School! Records Day!

January 28: Building Tour; 9AM

January 20: Multi Age Thematic Celebration

January 30: All City concert rehearsal during the day for band, orchestra and show choirs

January 31: All city concerts in FHS gym; Choir at 1PM, Orchestra at 4PM, Band at 7PM