

October, 2009

Principal: Ryan Foster
Office Manager: Sue Wade

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Lakeland Hills Press

AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT # 408

From the Principal....

Welcome to the second edition of our school newsletter. Students have been in school for nearly a month and are off to a great start. I want to thank all of those families who were part of the changes in full day kindergarten as well as in second and third grade. I appreciate your helping us make the transitions necessary. The changes came about due to our enrollment being down around 20 students. We had to cancel a class, causing Mrs. Blosser to move to Lea Hill Elementary School where she is now teaching 1st grade. Even though enrollment is down slightly, we still remain the largest elementary school in the district with 620 students. The closest school to our size is around 540 students. The changes did allow us to place all of our teachers in a classroom, as Mrs. Wren (here for Mrs. McCarthy during her maternity leave) has her own classroom to provide instruction for our first graders. This also allows our first grade teachers to have their room during their planning time to prepare for the next segment of instruction each day. This is a tremendous help for all of them.

This fall, students have been out on a couple of Fridays for staff in-services. The focus on the September day was to work in teams to create, prepare and plan for our Walk to Read program that began on Monday Oct. 5th. This is a 45 minute block of time, four days per week, that is different for each grade level during the day. During this block of time staff provide instruction in

reading at the child's instructional level. They also receive 45 minutes of "on grade level instruction" in their regular classroom at another time during the day to teach the skills that all students are expected to learn. The October in-service day focus is for teacher teams to continue to work collaboratively on redesigning our mathematics instruction. Teams began meeting last spring on our two in-service days to take the new state mathematics standards and plan lessons to meet those new expectations. Staff are also working to develop short assessments called "common formative assessments" that will measure student learning of that particular standard after the block of instruction has ended. It is "collaborative" because each teacher on that grade level team helps to write the assessment, they all give the same assessment on the same day and then use their teaming and collaborative time after school to look at students' performance on the assessment, identifying students that need more time and support to learn that concept as well as what students are ready for enrichment activities. This will continue to be the focus for all of our in-services this year. It has been incredibly powerful for staff to see the progress that students are making in their learning of the mathematics concepts in their classrooms. Teachers are collaborating on how they taught the concepts covered for that standard as well as the resources that they used. This has not

(Continued on page 3)

Dates to Remember:

October

- 15 Individual Picture Day
- 19 District Choral Festival 7pm @ AHS PAC
- 20 Reading Club 3:10-4pm
- 22 Wildcat Bookclub 3:10-4pm
- 23 NO SCHOOL—Waiver Day #2
- 30 Ident-A-Kid Pictures 9am-1pm

November

- 1 Daylight Savings Ends

- 3 General Election & Levy Elect. Day
Reading Club 3:10-4pm
- 5 Veteran's Day Program 6:30-7pm(gym)
- 6 Veteran's Day Assembly 2:20-3pm(gym)
- 10 All Kindergarten classes to Seattle Children's Theater
Reading Club 3:10-4pm
- 11 VETERAN'S DAY—NO SCHOOL
- 16-20 Book Fair



Counselor's Corner

Tattling vs. Reporting

Lakeland Hills students begin each school year participating in classroom lessons through our anti bullying programs, "STEPS to RESPECT" at intermediate grades and "SECOND STEP" for primary grades. Our ultimate goal is to empower our kids to play a large role in eliminating bullying behaviors at LLH. At the core of these programs is training dealing with tattling and reporting.

There is a big difference between tattling and reporting. Tattling is senseless and destructive. Not only does it often prove unfair to the child who is tattled on, but is also harmful to the child who does the tattling. The child who continually tattles on his/her peers becomes lonely and finds it difficult to find and keep friends.

Tattling is when a student tries to get someone into trouble

Reporting is when a student tries to keep someone safe

Students are learning that it is okay to report bullying behaviors. Students are being taught to report bullying incidents to an adult if:

Someone is being unsafe

Unwanted touching is happening

Threats have been given

Yours for Safe Kids,

Diane Bolles, Counselor

Federal Survey Forms Sent Home

Federal survey forms were sent home October 1st. Please complete a form for each child and return it to school as soon as possible. Thanks to many of the parents who have already turned in their form(s)!

Financial assistance may be made available to our school district if we have families living and working on federal property or are members of uniformed services.

We appreciate your cooperation in returning a completed questionnaire so the Auburn School district may apply for this program. Your efforts to provide accurate information and return this form promptly are appreciated.

If you do not wish to participate, please write 'refused' across the body of the form and sign and date the bottom. We must have a form from every student, whether or not you choose to provide the requested information.

PLEASE RETURN ASAP!



5th Grade Choral Festival

Monday, October 19

7pm @ AHS (PAC)



Reflections Arts Program

Theme: Beauty is....

Due date for art entries: November 6, 2009

NOVEMBER CONFERENCES

Elementary conferences will be held November 18, 19 and 20. Students will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m. during each of these days. Lunch will be served before students are dismissed. Evening conferences will be held on Thursday, November 19. Conference reminder letters will be sent out in mid-November.

IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP FOR A CONFERENCE, PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER.

only supported students more successfully in their learning, but has also increased the teachers' effectiveness in meeting the needs of each of their students. All of this does not happen easily and takes considerable time to redo our whole math program this year. It is our intent to provide time and support for all students to learn the necessary state standards in mathematics that makes all of the time and energy worthwhile. Feel free to ask your teacher about all of this. They would be excited to tell you.

When you get this newsletter there will be just one more day for students and families to turn in their donations and fundraising for the PTA Walk A Thon. The students walked on Oct. 2nd and did a fantastic job. They were encouraged by their teachers and other staff at Lakeland Hills as well as a host of parent volunteers. We also had our own "Speed Walker" and four firefighters from Valley Regional Fire Authority (newly named Auburn Fire Dept.) help us that day as well. It was a great event that day and we are now in the final stages of collecting the money for that event. Friday, Oct. 16th is the deadline to turn in money to count towards individual student prizes as well as my challenge to the kids to meet a goal of \$20,000. As you may have heard by now, the PTA approached me to see if I would accept a challenge to parachute out of an airplane if the school raised \$20,000. I have accepted the challenge and as of today, we have raised a total of \$18,679, just \$1,321 away from the goal. I certainly hope that we are able to make it because as the deadline quickly approaches, I am excited at the thought of parachuting for the first time in my life.

Finally, our student council has been approached by the Auburn Parks Commission and the Auburn Parks Dept. to join them in raising money for a handicap accessible playground to be installed at Les Gove Park. The students will be taking the first \$500 made in the Emergency Kits fundraiser and donating it to the project through a program called "Shane's Inspiration." The total cost of the project is estimated at \$300,000 and the city is seeking grants and private donations to fund the project. The City has asked each school to consider contributing to the project in any way that they can. A notice went out last week on orange paper to inform you of this event. If you would like to make a donation you can send that in with your child in an envelope marked "playground" and we will add it to the \$500 the students will be sending. The deadline is the end of the month so here is your chance to contribute.

As we head into the holiday seasons I want to remind you that we don't celebrate or dress up for Halloween (except kindergarten students). Instead, we have a School Spirit Day planned and the theme will be Hawaiian Day. Many classes will be having a harvest party on Friday, Oct. 30th

here at school. We have many families that do not celebrate Halloween and so we approach this season as a time to celebrate the fall harvest. If you have questions about this please feel free to email or call me or your child's teacher.

I hope that you and your family have a great October. If there is ever anything that we can do for you please don't hesitate to call, email or stop by. Don't forget to sign up for November parent-teacher conferences if you didn't get a chance to sign up at Open House. Each teacher also has a website to keep you up to date with what is happening in the classroom so check that out as well.

- Mr. Foster

Wildcat **Wow** Principal's Lunch Winners

Congratulations to the winners of Lunch with the Principal for October 2:

Calvin Park, Connor Thornhill, Abigail Fletcher, Gracie Rivera, Todd Neal and Eddie Estrada.



Look for everyone's picture in the hall by the kitchen!

Cuentos en español Para niños pequeños



Cuando: Los Viernes

Hora: De 11:00 a 11:45am

Lugar: Biblioteca de Algona

Se leen cuentos en español, rimas, canciones tradicionales, franelógrafo y más. Ven con tus niños a divertirte!

