



Bloomington SD13
www.sd13.org

Erickson Express

August 27, 2009

Erickson Elementary School
 277 Springfield Drive
 Bloomington, IL 60108
 (630) 529-2223

DEAR PARENT,

The 2009-2010 school year is well underway. The staff appreciates your support helping to make the first days of school successful. The buses are working well overall and students are making good use of their lunch period.

Please join us on Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 or 8:00 for the annual Curriculum Night. Each classroom teacher will review the grade level curriculum and relevant policies and practices. This program is for parents only.

There will be no need to sign up for Parent/Teacher Conferences this year as you will be able to complete this sign up in October online.



FAMILY HANDBOOK

Miss Green and Dr. Markgraf will visit each classroom in the coming two weeks to discuss the Family Handbook. The handbook is online at sd13.org. Students will bring home a form that requires parent and student signature indicating that you have read over and understand the contents of the handbook.

**Academic Excellence
 Award 2008**
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EAGLE AWARD PROGRAM

Please read the attached Eagle Award material.

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Great Books Program

Dr. Niemiec is in need of a few parent volunteers to support the Great Books Program. Please contact Dr. Niemiec at 630-529-2223 if you are interested in supporting this program or have questions.

Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader will begin on Monday, August 31st for students in second through fifth grades. Accelerated Reader is a computer program that measures the comprehension of books read. Students are allowed to take a quiz on books that they have read during independent reading time at school or on books read at home. Points are awarded based on the length and difficulty of the story. Points earned taking tests may be redeemed at the Accelerated Reader store. In addition to the store, there is also a special night out for Accelerated Readers in January, and all students who earn 100 points are invited on a field trip in the spring. Accelerated Reader is an incentive program so participation is voluntary.

At the present time we have approximately 8500 quizzes for Accelerated Reader. The books in the Erickson IMC have been marked with special Accelerated Reader stickers which indicate the difficulty level and the number of points that the book is worth. Parents may access the accelerated reader test list at the district website, www.sd13.org, and clicking on Erickson School and then the Accelerated Reader button. The test bank can be accessed either by author or title and is sensitive enough to locate the name of the book with only one word from the title.

If you have any questions about Accelerated Reader please contact Dr. Niemiec at (630) 529-2223.

A NOTE FROM THE NURSES

Please ensure that you have provided the school office with at least three accurate daytime phone numbers. Occasionally, students become ill during the school day and the nurses need to contact you for consultation and pick up. If one of these numbers changes during the school year (new home, new cell phone, new job) please call the school with the new number. You should also provide the name and contact information of two individuals with whom we can consult if you are unavailable.

As concerns regarding H1N1 (swine flu) continue, please review the “3 C’s” with your student-cleanse, cover, contain. Wash your hands frequently as the first line of defense against illness. If you are coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow or a tissue, not in your hand. And finally, if your child experiences fever (100.0 degrees or higher), sore throat or cough-contain the germs by keeping them at home for 24 hours after they are fever free. Influenza is a respiratory illness (not a stomach or bowel illness) and symptoms should not be confused. Once vaccines become available for both seasonal flu and the H1N1, please have your child vaccinated to ensure a healthy school year.

Project Wisdom-Helping Our Students Make Wiser Choices

We are proud to announce that Project Wisdom will be continuing as part of our school week this year. These weekly messages are rich in history, culture, and literature and will inspire and teach our students. They encourage reflection on topics such as integrity, respect, confidence, courage, and honesty. The program has a proven track record of delivering positive results and should complement our CHARACTER COUNTS! Philosophy. It serves as a positive influence by helping to reduce disciplinary problems, promoting a caring learning environment, and encouraging students to make wiser choices. The Project Wisdom program is utilized in over 11,000 schools across the country and reaches more than four million students. The one minute announcements will be broadcast school wide every Wednesday morning by a different staff member. Each Thursday we will print the announcement in the Express so you can discuss the message with your child.

If you have any questions or comments about this program, please feel free to contact Sue Noren, School Social Worker. For more information on Project Wisdom visit www.projectwisdom.com

Yesterday's message was:

Welcome Back to our halls of education. *Education* is an interesting word. Some people think it means pouring math, science, and social studies into the heads of students. To educate really means "to pull out". So the questions is: What brilliant ideas can we pull out of those minds of your this school year?

Let's begin the school year with a quote from a man known by the emperors of ancient China as "the teacher of all teacher"-Confucius, a great Chinese philosopher:

*I can always be sure to learn from those around me.
I can choose to copy the good I see others do.
And when I see others doing a bad thing, I can choose
Not to do those bad things.*

So today, notice the behavior of others and make a choice. Which good behavior will you copy, and which bad behavior will you correct yourself?

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Andrea Colantonio who recently donated 14 inches of her hair to the Locks of Love program. Andrea was eager to participate in this program as she was inspired by Erickson's former nurse and parent Mrs. Lucy Pierri.

Andrea did a wonderful act for another person in honor of an individual who meant so much to so many.

PTO FUN FAIR

Please join us on Friday, September 11 from 5:30 to 7:30 for the PTO Fun Fair.

PTO

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

The Entertainment Book sale will start Friday, August 28 and conclude on Friday, September 11. The books will cost \$20 each. Please return unsold books to your child’s teacher. If you have any questions about this PTO fundraiser, please phone Mrs. Lisa Cozzi at 630-671-1959.

MANNA GIFT CARDS

Manna Gift Card material is attached to this Express.



Events to Remember

Wednesday, September 2	1:40	Dismissal-grades 1-5
Thursday, September 3	2:00	PTO Mtg.
Monday, September 7		No School-Labor Day
Wednesday, September 9		School Picture Day
Thursday, September 10	7:00 & 8:00	Curriculum Night
Friday, September 11	5:30-7:30	PTO Fun Fair