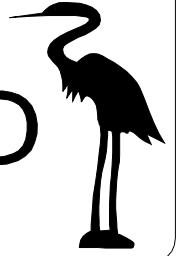


THE HERON HERALD



A Publication of Thurston Elementary School PTO

February 8, 2008

Important Dates

Mon., Feb. 11

NAAPID 8:48am –
3:40pm

Mon., Feb. 18

No School

Thurs., Feb. 21

Thurston Preschool Open
House 6:30-7:30pm

Mon.-Fri., Feb. 25 –

Mar. 1

No school
Mid-winter Break

Thurs., Mar. 6

Thurston Kindergarten
Round-up 6:00-8:00 pm

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NEXT NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE:

Tuesday, February 12th

Thurston PTO Website: thurstonpto.awardspace.com

Principal's Notes

Wow, do we have talent or what? If you missed the Thurston Talent Extravaganza, you truly missed a treat from original skits to dance, piano, guitar, flute, vocals, petite drum MCs, and a stage crew, we had it all. The night's special treat was a duet by our staff members Ms. Rothfeld and Mr. Test singing "Sunrise, Sunset" from "Fiddler on the Roof".

My special thanks to all the parent volunteers: Mr. Engelbert, Mr. Greenspan, Mrs. Briggs, Mrs. Hadrill, Mrs. Bunker and Mrs. Morey. I also appreciate the time spent by the participants' parents who brought them to tryouts and practices.

Winter is still here and so are our puddles and mud. - It is a very good idea for your child to bring an extra outfit to have when they fall, slip, play in the water and mud. I am continuing to work with Grounds to get this situation resolved.

Count Day is February 13 – Please make sure your child is present on this day. This official count day determines the funding the Ann Arbor Public Schools receives from the State. If your child is absent that day, please call the office and let us know the reason so it can be documented.

NAAPID (Nation African American Parent Involvement Day) is Monday, February 11. All parents are invited to spend time in their child's classroom. A separate invitation/flyer was sent earlier this week.

Patricia A. Manley, Principal

Volunteers Needed for Motor Moms and Dads

This is a great program to help kids improve their large motor skills, balance and visual tracking. We are specifically looking for help with the kindergarten and Pre-School classes. If you have older kids and you miss helping out in the younger classrooms here is your chance. If you haven't been able to help at centers or on a field trip please sign-up. It is fun and will take about 45 minutes to an hour of your time every time you volunteer, and the kids enjoy it too! Sign up sheets will be placed outside the rooms of the Kindergarten classes and the Preschool room. We are looking for help any morning starting at 9:20-10:10 am on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday afternoon from 1:30-2:30 pm. Please e-mail Nikki Bonevich at nikki@bonevich.com or call 327-9790 if you were unable to attend the February 5th training. For more information about the program please visit <http://www.motormomsanddads.com>.

By Nikki Bonevich

See the back for more news and notes!

Please Recycle Me



PTSO Speaker Sessions at Clague

Monday, February 11, from 8:00-9:00 pm in the Clague Media Center there will be a Speaker Session hosted by the Clague Middle School PTSO. The focus will be on financial planning information for families, including college savings plans. More Speaker Sessions will run from now through April. For more information visit the Clague PTSO Website at <http://clague.a2schools.org/clague.home/home>.

By Clague PTSO

Science Olympiad Coaches Meeting

Calling all current and past Science Olympiad coaches to our coaches meeting, primarily to help new coaches learn the ropes. It will take place Wednesday, February 13 at 7:00pm in the Thurston Library. If any of you have previous materials, contact information for supplies, etc. please bring it to the meeting.

By Susan Montgomery

Yearbook Photos Still Needed

Photographs are still needed for the following classrooms: 2 group photos for Goodly PM, Lussier/Kerwin, Sipp and Vanderhoff, and 1 group photograph for Murphy. I need 4X6 photographs by Friday, February 15. Photographs can be sent to the office c/o Caroline Engelbert. Thank you for your help.

By Caroline Engelbert

Tuition Pre-School Open Houses

If you have a child who will be 4 years old by December 1, 2008, we'd love to have you visit the Ann Arbor Public Schools' tuition pre-school program. We are pleased to offer this program at two outstanding locations. Children in the program benefit from a rich developmental curriculum, certified early childhood teachers, and support services that are uncommon in a traditional pre-school setting. The program operates according to the school district calendar, with flexible scheduling options available. If you'd like to learn more about this exemplary program, please visit one of our open houses:

Thurston Pre-School Open House: Thursday, Feb. 21 at 6:30-7:30 pm, 2300 Prairie St.

Allen Pre-School Open House: Thursday, March 6 at 5:30-6:30 pm, 2560 Towner Blvd.

These open houses are an informal opportunity to meet the staff, explore the space and hear about the philosophy and program. While the presentation is geared for adults, children are welcome to attend with their parents.

By Sara Aeschbach

A Note from the Wellness Committee

While not required to attend school, the Center for Disease Control recommends a SECOND chicken pox booster vaccine. Children who get a single dose of the vaccine have an expected 80% immunity. Up to 20% of children receiving a single dose are susceptible to chicken pox. With the booster dose, the percentage of immunities rises to 99%. Ask your doctor about getting your child a second dose.

By Caroline Engelbert

Hérons in the Spotlight

A new feature will run allowing friends, family or Thurston staff to highlight students and staff in The Heron Herald. We love hearing about the accomplishments of our Thurston students and staff in and out of school! If there is room for your announcement it will run that week, provided the information is in by the Tuesday deadline. Please contact Nikki Bonevich at nikki@bonevich.com or call 327-9790.

By The Thurston PTO