

Beall Elementary School Newsletter

"One Band, One Sound!"

December 2007
Volume 4

Mr. Troy Boddy-Principal
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Safety First

On 10/12 all students participated in a drill to practice what to do if they ever needed to evacuate the school bus.

What's Happening in NOVEMBER??

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that the leaves have changed from the bright green of summer to the red, gold and yellow of Fall. With the change in seasons we also move into the second marking period. In this newsletter, I would like to highlight some of the important dates for the month.

There will be no school for students on **Thursday, November 1**. This is a professional day set aside for teachers to prepare report cards.

On **Thursday, November 9** and **Friday, November 12**, all children in grades K-5 will be dismissed at 12:35pm for Parent-Teacher conferences. Breakfast and lunch will be served on both days as normal. In order to feed everyone, lunch times will be adjusted, and there will be no recess.

Early Release Lunch Schedule

10:30-11:00~Kindergarten
10:45-11:15~Grade 1
11:00-11:30~Grade 2
11:15-11:45~Grade 3
11:30-12:00~Grade 5
11:45-12:15~Grade 4

Teachers have sent home conference notices with your scheduled time noted. Please contact your child's teacher if you have not yet received one.

Conferences are intended to increase understanding of the instructional program, check on student progress, discuss areas of strengths and challenges and gain information on how to help your child at home. Conferences are generally scheduled for 15-20 minutes. You should come prepared with any specific questions that you want to discuss with the teachers. Be sure to accurately note the day and time of the scheduled conference. This will help keep things running smoothly.

Each year at Beall, in observance of Veterans' Day, a very short but special tradition starts the school day. Rather than our routine of morning announcements and news on WBEL-TV, the entire school body assembles in front of the school for a ceremony. There is patriotic



music playing, the flag is raised and several speakers highlight the importance of this day. You are welcome to join us outside for this tribute to America's Veterans.

Schools will be closed for Thanksgiving on November 22 and November 23. It is a time to feast on good food, shared with family and friends, and to remember how much each of us has to be thankful for.

I am very thankful for being able to work with such a great student body, great staff, and supportive parents.

Troy E. Boddy

REMINDER FROM THE OFFICE STAFF

We are asking for your help! **Please** respect the teachers planning time in the morning and class time during the day. If you need to speak with a teacher, please **call** to make an appointment. **Do not** drop in the teacher's classroom without an appointment. We are also asking that volunteers do the same. There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer in the school that do not include classroom work. (book room, library, school office, to name a few..)

In order to speak with an administrator you must make an appointment. If you have a concern about academic issues or behavior in your child's classroom, we ask that you address the problem first with the teacher. If you feel your concerns were not addressed, you may request an appointment to speak with an administrator. Because of the administrators busy schedules, walk in meetings are not possible. Remember that the administrators are the instructional leaders of the school and they spend time in the classrooms, lunchroom, and the playground.

Middle School Magnet Consortium (MSMC) for Current Grade 5 Students

MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGNET PROGRAMS



Applications for Grade 5 students to apply to the Humanities and Communication Magnet Program at Eastern Middle School or the Mathematics/Science/Computer Science Magnet Program at Takoma Park Middle School are currently being accepted. They are available on-line; but if you prefer, a hard copy can be sent home with your child. Let your child's teacher know if you would like a copy of the application.

MCPS offers innovative and challenging curricula at three magnet middle schools.

Students are selected through a Choice process. Parents can learn more about the programs in information meetings and open houses.

Each session will provide an overview of the programs and choice process for the three middle schools in the consortium—Argyle Magnet School for Information Technology, A. Mario Loiederman Magnet School for Creative and Performing Arts and Parkland Magnet School for Aerospace Technology.

11/19 Parkland MS **7:00

11/27 Argyle MS** 7:00

11/1 Loiederman MS** 7:00

Deadlines for all applications: Friday, December 7, 2007

Parents may obtain more information on the magnet programs by attending one of the parent information meetings. Mail the application directly to the magnet office as described in the application packet.

Parent information meeting dates are as follows:

November 14, 2007 Takoma Park Middle School Gymnasium-7:00 PM

November 7, 2007 Eastern Middle School Auditorium-7:00 PM

November 14, 2007 Robert Clemente Middle School-7:00 PM

For additional information follow this link to the MCPS webpage:

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/



RIDE BY THE RULES

Ride by the Rules is a safety campaign to insure safe bus activity. Nearly 100,000 students ride a MCPS school bus every day and MCPS school buses travel more than 100,000 miles per day. As with all of our safety initiatives, this is a “team effort.” Please help us foster safe and positive behavior at the bus stop and on the bus by reminding your children about being respectful, responsible, and safe. Students should stand at the bus stop and be sure to remain on the sidewalk. When the bus arrives, they should line up single file so no one gets hurt trying to board the bus.

While on the bus, there is to be no eating or drinking. All students are to be seated properly, keeping hands, feet and head inside the bus at all times. Remember, for the safety of all students on the bus, these rules are to be followed. Riding the bus is a

privilege and we do not want to have to revoke anyone's privilege for not observing safety regulations and standards.

Project: Quality Time

All students in MCPS Elementary School are invited to participate in Project: Quality Time at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. Take a self-guided tour of the National Gallery on Saturday, November 10 or Saturday, March 1.

Information will be sent home soon!



OPEN HOUSE

October 8 was open house day and we were pleased to have you spend time with us on that day. Based on our sign in sheets we had over 271 visitors to Beall classrooms. This was an increase from last year. Thank you for coming and continue to support your child and our school in any way possible!

CAFETERIA NEWS

Please continue to monitor your child's lunch accounts. When you receive a low balance notice, please put money on the account immediately. You may pay cash or write a check for the account. **NO CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED!!!**

American Indian Heritage Month

- 1 NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- 2 2nd Marking Period Begins
- 5 Grade 4 to Clagett Farm (Ugloni/Haley)-9:00-4:00
- 6 PTA Meeting-7:00 PM
- 7 BOOK FAIR
Fall Arts & Crafts-3:00
- 8 BOOK FAIR
- 9 Early Release Day-12:35 (No HeadStart, Pre-K, Pre-k Speech)
BOOK FAIR
Flyer Distribution Date
Parent Conferences
Report Card Distribution Day
- 12 Veterans Day
BOOK FAIR
Early Release Day/Parent Conferences (No HeadStart, Pre-K, Pre-k Speech)
- 14 Fall Arts & Crafts Class
- 14 Second grade to Strathmore @ 12:15
- 15 HeadStart/Pre-K Parent Meeting-9:00- TV Studio
- 20 Grade 5 (Boyd) to National Building Museum-9:00-1:30
- 21 Grade 5 (Reumont/Thanos) to National Building Museum-9:00-1:30
- 22&23 NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Holidays

29 *Kindergarten to Museum of Natural History-9:30-1:30*
30 *Make Up Picture Day-10:00*
Principal's Newsletter