



All City Elementary PTA Newsletter

Week 1
August 22, 2011

Our Mission: "To create a community of learners: children, teachers, and parents working cooperatively to maximize individual growth and success in a changing world."

Deadline: Friday, noon
Kristin Kollis, editor
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www.allcitypta.org

At a glance Calendar Events

- Monday, August 22nd
1st Day of School
7:55 am
- August 22nd-26th
Week 1
~Parent Trainers in Classrooms (K-5)
- Friday, August 26th
~School Wide Activity
At Yogi Bear Corn Maze
- Aug 29th—Sept 2nd
Week 2
~Parent Trainers in Classrooms (K-2)
- Friday, Sept 2nd
Swimming
- Monday, Sept 5th
No School
- Tuesday, Sept 6th
Parent Training Night
6:00 pm

**Complete
School Year
Calendar is
available at
www.allcitypta.org**

A message from Mr. D:

Well, it is finally here! The first day of the school year, 2011-12! I can remember more than 5 years ago, reviewing the Indication of Interest forms for this class, and it seemed a long way off. At the beginning of summer, it seemed a long way off as well. And yet, time seems to fly, and here we are, a new class of 5 year olds ready for kindergarten, and summer is now almost gone, except for the official seasonal designation (fall officially begins on September 23rd). And after a pleasant weekend of weather to usher it in, it sounds as if the weather will once again throw us a little heat wave, just to remind us that we are still in the month of August.

This year, the school calendar was actually one week later than it has been for the past few. We still will complete the first semester by Christmas, which means effectively going through fall with approximately 3 or 4 less vacation days. Even more significant, we will have fewer breaks in spring, and are scheduled to complete the school year on May 15, 2012, barring any snow days. This past year, ACE attendance rate as measured by the state, and a mark we are held accountable for by the Federal Guidelines of NCLB, went up from 96.8 % in 2010 to 97.2 % in 2011. This even small rise is significant, in even a school with small enrollment, and indicates a focused effort by parents to ensure absences other than those required for health reasons are kept at a minimum. Nice job, ACE parents! It will be even more important to plan family trips and other activities that include healthy students not being in school to be at a minimum, in a condensed and accelerated school calendar. Any time missing school during the school year doesn't allow the students to participate in the important activities we have planned at ACE. While we don't want sick students at school, we do want healthy ones to participate in our planned activities. View the ACE calendar at our website, or view the SFSU calendar at various places on the SFSU website.

This year, we are requiring all current ACE parents to sign an understanding of parental involvement in their children's educational activities, a required document that needs to be signed by all ACE parents for us to be able to proceed in the most efficient manner. If you have any questions about this form or procedures and philosophy of All City, please don't hesitate to contact me and ask them.

ACTIVITY TICKETS

The ticket that is used by elementary students for Lincoln, Roosevelt, and Washington athletic contests is again available. The elementary student activity ticket will again be different from the middle school and high school ticket. Please make this information available to students and parents, possibly in your first newsletter to parents.

Please make the checks payable to the Sioux Falls School District in the amount of **\$20** and mail it to the attention of Linda - Athletics. She will send you a completed ticket. These tickets will also be available at all three high schools.

K through 12 ticket prices will be \$3 at the gate. This includes all boys' and girls' athletic contests. Many children accompany their parents to games so they should take advantage of these reduced prices. The ticket will admit the bearer only. Each student must have his/her own ticket.

Activity tickets will not be honored at the President's Bowl or at any invitational tournament. This includes school district employees.

Attention- PARENT TRAINING NIGHT

Tuesday, September 6, 2011 from 6 to 8 pm.

Important training information will be shared. Each family will be expected to have ONE representative at this training night. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** If a family does not have a representative present, it will be counted as a first missed commitment for the year. This date has been advertised since April, and is an important time for our procedures and expectations.

Thanks for making time to increase our efficiency at what we do!!

The ACE and EIC staff at Jane Addams wish to say a big "Thank you" to ACE PTA for sponsoring a back-to-school lunch for our staff. Also, thanks to Joni Merkley and Sarah Sarbacher for lining up a great breakfast and other yummy snacks throughout our first week of meetings and preparation for the school year!! **Thanks, all!!**

The first Monday's Folder:

***ACE Parental Involvement in Educational Activities Understanding** will be circulated, and is required to be completed and returned in the Monday's folder on Tuesday, August 23.

*Your child's **Blue Card**, with all contact information, e-mail addresses, and important emergency contact information is in your first Monday's folder, and should be revised and sent back to school ASAP. This is the emergency information the school will use to contact you in case of emergency. Also, e-mail addresses will be those used for regular, weekly reminders and contact from the school.

Reminder!!!

ID badges are required for parents and other volunteers that will be doing commitment time in the classroom.

I can either take your picture or you may email me a photo to

jonimerkley@hotmail.com

I will have a sign up sheet at the parent sign in area if you would like me to take your picture at school.

Please put your name and time you will be doing your commitment.

When your ID's are completed they will be in the parent sign in area.

Thanks! Joni Merkley

Treasurer's Notes:

My name is Andy McQuistan and I am the new Treasurer this year at ACE. For our new parents I wanted to let you know that at ACE we have a no fund raising policy. So you do not have to worry about little Jon or Lisa coming home with a sign up sheet for \$20 cookie dough. Rather at ACE we collect an activity fee of \$30 for each child at the school. The fee goes towards a number of things such as monthly swimming at the YMCA, field trips, the annual musical, etc. In addition, to the activities fee we offer single and family PTA members of \$8 and \$12, respectively. These help pay for the Reflections program, which is a national fine arts program that each of our children gets a chance to participate in. In addition, it pays for our state and national PTA membership fees. Last year we had over 90% participation in PTA. So if you did not get a chance to sign up at the Ice Cream Social please talk to Mrs. Helming or any of the Board members. You can also drop a check payable to ACE PTA in the Treasurer's mailbox at the school.

If you did not get your PTA membership card at the Ice Cream Social, please e-mail me and I will get one to you one. You can e-mail me at wmcquistan@yahoo.com.

Spirit Wear

Show your school spirit by ordering ACE Spirit Wear. Once again we have short and long sleeve t-shirts, polos, and stocking hats available with the ACE logo. The first order will go in on September 13th. Order forms are in the office next to where parents sign in. You can drop off order forms in any of the classrooms or put it into the Treasurer's mailbox.

Lunch Program Announcements :

ACE parents have always been invited to eat lunch with their students in the ACE lunchroom. Students in the lunchroom are asked to not share their lunches with other students. This can lead to hard feelings amongst students, and also frustrate parents who are trying to plan and provide appropriate lunches for their own children. Parents who bring food for themselves or their children are expected to follow the same guidelines, do not provide food of any kind to students other than your family. Failure to follow these guidelines could result in loss of lunch privileges in the ACE lunchroom. Thanks for your understanding in this area.

****You can now see your lunch balances and make deposits via E-funds for Schools program. Please see the letter explaining this program in your first Monday's folder, today. Be aware of the fee per transaction.**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Server (PLEASE COME TO GYM AT 11:45)					
If no other parents are available to serve from a classroom as scheduled, All Day parents may need to serve lunch, eat at 12:10 and are excused from noon recess duty.					
Aug/Sept/Oct	2	1	Rock	K	5
Nov/Dec/Jan	5	4	Satterlee	3	2
Feb/Mar	3	5	Rock	2	4
Apr/May	1	3	Satterlee	4	K



ACE is planning a **school-wide activity** on **Friday, August 26**, an afternoon at Yogi Bear's Corn Maze and other activities at their facility (wagon rides, etc). Please watch your Monday folder for information, communicate any questions to your classroom teacher, and get ready for a fun time! ACE PTA is sponsoring this activity—Thanks PTA.



Introducing— Miss Noem,
Second grade teacher at All City—

My name is Heidi Noem and I grew up on a pig farm 7 miles from a town of 300 called Bryant. I went to Hamlin elementary, middle and high school. I graduated in 2003 and moved to Sioux Falls to go to USF. While I was at USF I majored in Elementary Education, played basketball and ran track. Unfortunately, I have had 4 knee surgeries, so I only was involved with sports for 2 years. After graduating in December of 2007, I substitute

taught for the Sioux Falls School District for the Spring semester. My first teaching job was at Lake Preston, SD. I was an after-school program director, elementary computer teacher and coach for 1 year. I then moved back to Sioux Falls and got a job in the Flandreau School District as a Title teacher. After 1 year, I was then moved into the 3rd Grade position and coached 8th grade volleyball. This summer, I started my Masters at USF, so that was the only fun thing I got to do! I am very excited for this new journey at All City Elementary. I am overwhelmed with the kind words and open arms I have received since joining this school a week ago! I look forward to getting to know you all better and am ready for a great year.



All City Elementary School

2511 West Brookings Street
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104
(605) 367-6120 Fax (605) 367-6063
Relay Services for Hearing Impaired: Dial 711, then the desired number
Kevin Dick, Principal



Dr. Pamela J. Homan, Superintendent

ACE Parental Involvement in Educational Activities Understanding

All City parents should understand that for the most efficient use of parent assistance, parents working in the classroom may be requested to instruct other students, evaluate their performance on educational tasks, and report this performance to the classroom teacher. While confidentiality is stressed at All City, parents involved in the ACE community understand that other adult members of the ACE community may have knowledge of students' educational performance from families other than their own.

By signing, below, I understand this important component of the ACE program, and give my permission for other parents to be involved in "grading and recording situations" as described above and in SFSD Board Regulation IKA-R (page 14).

Signature

Printed Name

Student Name

Student Grade (in 2011-12)



WELCOME BACK!

What:
**Annual Community Building Activity
for All ACE Students**

When:
Friday, August 26th

Time:
1:00 to 2:30

Where:
Yogi Bear Campground's Corn Maze

Why:
To build trusting relationships within our community

Student cost:
PTA is paying for all students and Friday parents

Parent Cost:
PTA will cover the cost of all Friday parents and parent trainers.
Parents who would like to attend out will have to pay
the fee of \$4.00.

What to bring on Friday:
Sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, water bottle.
A refreshing treat will be provided upon our return to school.

There are 2 mazes in which the students will travel through in small groups.
There is an easy maze and a harder maze.
Students will be able to do both mazes and enjoy a wagon ride as long as time permits.

**Each classroom needs drivers so PLEASE check with your child's teacher if you can
help drive.**

**Directions will be handed out on Friday.
We will leave school at 12:45 PM and return around 2:30 PM.**