

All City Elementary PTA Newsletter

Week I
October 31, 2011

Our Mission: "To create a community of learners: children, teachers, and parents working cooperatively to maximize

Deadline: Friday, noon
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www.allcitypta.org

At a glance **Calendar Events**

- **Monday Oct. 31st**
-Fall Classroom Parties/Parade
-Dow Rummel
2:00 pm
- **Wednesday, Nov 2nd**
-Book Fair
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
1:30 pm
- **Thursday, Nov 3rd**
-Book Fair
-Parent-Teacher Conferences
4:30 pm
- **Friday, Nov 4th**
-Swimming
1:00 pm
- **Monday, Nov 7th**
- PTA Board Meeting
12:00 pm

A message from the Principal:

We have had two weeks of celebrating Fine Arts at ACE. Our first week we welcomed Gordy Pratt, Artist in Residence, and this week, we culminated that experience with a program of his works and all the songs the kids wrote in their time with him. This week began with a music program of our 4th and 5th grade orchestra, 5th grade band, and the 1st and 2nd grade vocal music. And our visual arts have been busy as well, painting our version of the Snow Plow blade for the city event, displaying art pieces at our music concert, and preparing the art pieces that you can purchase in a multitude of formats (see info in this newsletter) during Parent/Teacher Conferences through our Original Works Art Fundraiser that supports our Artist In Residence program. Thanks to all who had a part in all of those productions and events!!

Parent Teacher Conferences are this week (see Handbook Highlights in this edition), and even though we see families here every week, it is good for us to sit and talk specifically about student achievement, and the goals and accomplishments of our students. The conferences are student-led, so again, it is another component of our community aspect and a direct reflection of our mission, parents, students and teachers, working together, for success of all.

Each year, we work on a school improvement plan for the district and the state. Teachers examine last year's data about student achievement, determine what would be areas that students in their present class could be improved upon, identify strategies to address these areas, and then track the data that is collected to see how we did at the end of the year. We usually choose a goal in both reading and math in all 6 grades, and then look for a goal in the area of safety, student health and wellness, and several other areas related to how our students achieve, trying to stay away from only looking at test scores. When our plan is approved, I will include more in future newsletters.

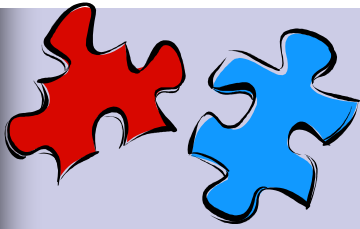
Conference Week:

Oct. 31st to Nov. 4th:

If you have an e-reader or iPad and would like to learn how to download books from the school districts' Overdrive collection to your device, stop by the library during conference nights from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday November 2nd or Thursday November 3rd. We have books available for grades 3 to 5, as well as high school/adult books for parents.

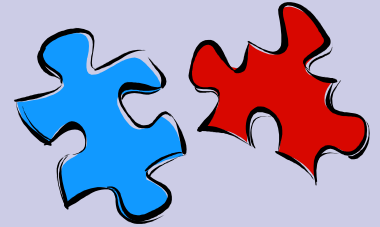
See you there! Mrs. Wells, Jane Addams Librarian

The **Fall Book Fair** will be held on **Wednesday, November 2nd from 1pm to 7pm and Thursday, November 3rd from 3pm to 7pm** in the Gym during conferences! There will be wish lists from the teachers as well as the librarian if you would like to purchase a book for them. The dollars raised from the "One for Books" program will go directly to our own EIC to purchase books!!!



Are you GREAT at PUZZLES??

Do you need flexibility in your commitment schedule??



If you answered “yes”, you may be the right person for the outside position of Parent Co-coordinator aka Parent Scheduler. This is a two-year appointed position beginning January 1, 2012.

You can review the job expectations on the ACE website under the document tab, Section E. If you have any questions, please contact Stacy Chedester 201-6364 or Michelle Krier 366-0096

If you are interested, please submit an email stating why you would be good for this position to stacychedester@aim.com

DEADLINE: TODAY October 31st

THANK YOU!!

Thank you to the following ACE families providing some great learning opportunities for our kids. You are appreciated!!

Dill	Josephine’s Floral
Heibult	Visit Petsmart
Krier	Visit Feeding SD
Chedester	Hip Hop Dance
Stearns	Fundamentals of Flag Football
Heckenliable	Caring for your skin
Mendel	Smoothies
Baker	Jack-O-Lanterns
McQuistan	Cartooning
Harp/Voigt	Halloween Mummies
Dyer	Reflections: Visual Arts

PTA BOARD MEETING AGENDA

- Call to Order
 - General Announcements
 - Approval of September meeting minutes
- Principal Update
- Teacher Updates
- Treasurer's Report
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
 - Artist in Residence Update
 - Fall Festival Review
 - Conferences
- General Announcements
 - Next Meeting: December 5, 2011.
 - Lunch to be provided by Chad Dystra

Handbook Highlight:

Student-led Conferences

Students take an active part in the “parent-teacher” conference. During the conference, together each parent, teacher and individual student will set personal goals for the remainder of the year. Students learn responsibility and accountability through this process.

FREE MONEY!!!!!!

Yes, All City Elementary is able to get free money through its fundraising.

Because of your boxtops, milk caps and soup labels, All City has earned the following for 1st Quarter:

* \$101.50 from Land-o-Lakes milk caps!

* \$ 352.90 from Boxtops for Education!

* We also donated 3 gallon-sized bags full of pop tabs to Ronald McDonald house.

* (Campbells Soup labels were not submitted this quarter – not much soup was eaten over the summer.)

Please keep cutting and keeping your boxtops, milk caps, pop tabs and Campbells labels for Education. All of the “littles” add up to a LOT of FREE MONEY!!! Drop off in the teacher’s workroom.

Thank you!

Kathy Anderson

Fundraiser coordinator

EASY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING at ACE

Get ready for the easiest Christmas shopping you’ll do this year! The Original Works fundraiser will once again take place during conferences this week. You will be able to order from over 20 different items, each with your own child’s original artwork printed on it! Come a little early, or stay a little late to fill out your order.

It is the easiest way to buy Christmas gifts that I know. Think “A coffee mug for Grandma, notecards for Aunt Suzie, etc... “

Don’t forget: BRING YOUR CHECKBOOK!

Fall Parent Teacher Conferences

“Specials” and other “Shared” Teachers

Schedule

Stacy Sip, Orchestra, Wednesday, November 3, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

**Kurt Skogstad, PE, Wednesday, November 2, 3:00-7:30 and
Thursday, November 3, 4:30-5:30 pm**

**Katie Doohen, Music, & Band: Wednesday, November 2, 3:30- 7:30 pm
Thursday, November 3, 3:30-6:30 pm**

**Susan Schmitz, Art, Wednesday , November 2, 3:15-6:15 pm and
Thursday, November 3, 3:15-6:15 pm**

Louise Fonder, Speech, Thursday, November 3, 6:00-7:30 pm

Beth Adams, Counselor, Wednesday, November 2, 3:30-6:30 pm

**Beth Wells, Librarian, Wednesday, November 2, 3:30-7:30pm and
Thursday, November 3, 3:30-7:30 pm**

Katie Martin, Gifted, Thursday, November 3, 4:30-6:30pm

**Rebecca Assam, Resource, Wednesday, November 2, 3:30-5:30 pm
Thursday, November 3, 5:00-7:00 pm**

School Related Cancellations and Postponements

It is important to be prepared for the winter storms and extreme cold that every South Dakota winter brings. Please read the following information so you are aware of the procedures for school related cancellations and postponements.

We rely on experts from the weather service and city/county officials when we make decisions on school cancellations, late starts or early dismissals.

Cancelling School/Late Start

When a severe storm hits the area, or is forecast, we start contacting local officials as early as 3:00 a.m. We communicate with our Operational Services Department, the Weather Bureau, the City Street Department, Sioux Falls Transit, and our transportation contractors. It is our goal to decide whether or not to cancel school by 5 a.m. to allow time for parking lots and sidewalks to be cleared, food services to prepare meals and the bus company to begin operations. In the event that school needs to be cancelled or delayed, families will be alerted via an Alert Now phone call. These calls will generally be sent between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. to accommodate families whose children are picked up by busses at 6:45 a.m. Announcements are also made on KLRN-TV (Cable Channel 20) and over the local radio and television stations.

Because the public schools have a limited rural area, it is often possible for Sioux Falls to have school when nearby towns may not.

Early Dismissal

Storms occasionally move in during the day, making it necessary to assess whether or not to dismiss school early. We choose early dismissal only under the most extreme circumstances. In most cases, it is safer for students to remain at school due to the need for transportation and proper supervision. In the rare instances when schools are dismissed early, families will receive a Connect Ed phone call and the information will appear on the District's website at www.sf.k12.sd.us. Announcements are also made on KLRN-TV and over the local radio and television stations.

Notifications refer to dismissal "one hour early" or "two hours early" because of the number of different building schedules. In addition to noting the early dismissal, announcements about evening activities are normally included.

It is very important that every family has a plan for early dismissal. Be sure your student knows where to go in case no one is at home. Talk to your student about his/her safety during winter weather emergencies.

Be safe this winter

The school system offers these suggestions concerning cold weather and emergency situations:

1. Listen for an Alert Now phone call regarding school closings, late starts, or early dismissals. Check the District's website at www.sf.k12.sd.us for updated information. Announcements will also be made on KLRN-TV and local radio and television stations. (Please avoid calling schools or the Instructional Planning Center. Phone lines are needed for emergency communications.)
2. Make sure students are properly dressed for predicted weather conditions so they are prepared for walking or waiting for a bus in the cold or for being delayed on a bus in a weather-related situation.
3. Students should not arrive at school until the scheduled time for outdoor staff supervision or the breakfast program begins.
4. Have a plan of action as to where your student will go if school is dismissed early.
5. School officials will use their best judgment about school closings, late starts, or early dismissals, but please remember that a parent has the right to keep children home or to pick them up from school early if they feel weather conditions require this action.

Princess Ball

For Fathers & Daughters
\$19 per Princess/Dad



Dads, create a special memory with your daughter! Dress-up for a fun evening together learning simple dance steps and then taking them to the dance floor. Grandfathers, uncles, adult brothers and godfathers are also welcome to bring their favorite princess. Light refreshments.

Class Options:

PC107A 1Sa 11/5 7:00 – 8:30pm

PC107B 1Sa 11/12 7:00 – 8:30pm

Contact Community Education to Register:

www.sf.k12.sd.us

Call 605.367.7999