

All City Elementary PTA Newsletter

Week 2
November 21, 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
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www.allcitypta.org

At a glance Calendar Events

- Wednesday, Nov 23rd
-NO SCHOOL
- Thursday, Nov 24th
-NO SCHOOL
- Friday, Nov 25th
-NO SCHOOL
- Monday, Nov 28th
-SAT 10 tests begin
- Friday, Dec 2nd
-Swimming 1pm
- Saturday, Dec 3rd
-Snowflake Shuffle
2:00 pm

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

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE PTA NEWSLETTER

To make things simpler now and in the future, an email address has been created specifically for any items you would like placed in the ACE PTA newsletter. Please use this email address going forward:

ace4news@gmail.com

In the subject line of the email, please **ONLY indicate the date** you would like your information run in the newsletter (include ALL dates if you'd like it included multiple weeks).

Thank you!!

District "Fights" Bullying with Prevention Program

By Dr. Pamela J. Homan, Superintendent



On the playground. At city parks. In the backyard of the kid next door. Wherever children gather, so too do bullies. They've been there since the beginning of time. But never before have schools taken such a strong stand against the damaging physical and emotional behavior that is today defined as "bullying."

I'm proud to say the Sioux Falls School District is leading the way in our region in terms of bullying prevention efforts. Despite funding challenges that forced painful cuts last spring, the School Board held firm on its commitment to implement the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program in grades K-8 this fall. Implementation at the high schools will happen in subsequent years.

This fall, teachers and administrators in every elementary and middle school are undergoing intense training with an ultimate goal of reducing the number of bullying incidents reported in their schools.

Students in all buildings have completed a pre-test survey to determine in what ways they have been bullied or witnessed bullying in the past. Teachers then utilize classroom meetings and PRO-Time to further inform students of the proactive role they can play in stopping bullying behavior. A post-test later in the year will help the District determine what impact prevention efforts are making.

This is not to say that the implementation of the Olweus Program is the District's first attempt at eradicating bullying behaviors. Through the District's Progressive Discipline Policy, we have always taken a no-tolerance approach to name-calling, physical harm, threats, avoidance and any other form of bullying. We will continue to do so. What the Olweus Program gives students and teachers is a common language that will empower witnesses of bullying to seek help from a trusted adult who is trained to resolve the situation.

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program is the result of decades of research by Dr. Dan Olweus, a professor of psychology from Norway who is often considered the "pioneer" in bullying research. The proven Olweus model requires the involvement of individuals, classrooms, the entire school, as well as parents and communities, if bullying is to be addressed successfully.

I hope we can count on your support and ask you to partner with our teachers and administrators as the Sioux Falls Public Schools take a strong stand against bullying. Teaching students to celebrate themselves and respect the differences of others are lessons one can never out-grow – they are good for life.

Thanks for your generosity!!! The COINS for KIDS effort for United Way generated \$367.02 from All City. ACE's donation ranked 17th in overall giving of the 24 schools in Sioux Falls that participated. This year the students in the elementary schools of the Sioux Falls School District raised a combined total of \$14,522.47! An 11% increase over the \$13,088 that was raised last year.

Safety on the Playground for Playground Monitors

Risky Behaviors:

- ♦ Running or walking too fast.
- ♦ Inattention to the conditions.
- ♦ Wearing inappropriate footwear.
- ♦ Jumping over puddles or other obstacles.
- ♦ Taking unsafe shortcuts across landscaping.
- ♦ Carrying items which obstruct your view of the path.



Best Practices:

- ♦ Grass and leaves are very slippery when wet, use extra caution or avoid them completely.
- ♦ Watch for loose gravel on the playground surfaces.
- ♦ Walk across designated areas ONLY.
- ♦ Avoid carrying items out in front of you.
- ♦ Use handrails whenever available.
- ♦ Use extra caution near melt runoff areas, as the water may have re-frozen.
- ♦ Slow down, walk flat-footed and use a wide stance when walking across \ potentially icy surfaces.
- ♦ Wipe shoes well when coming in from wet or slushy conditions.
- ♦ Wear shoes or boots that have a soft rubber sole with deep treads or channels. (think of a car tire)

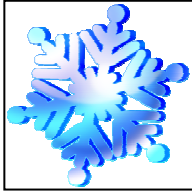
Safety Alert

Please remember to buckle all children into seat belts when picking up and dropping off at All City, when the cars are moving. Also, adults are to be wearing seatbelts as well. Patrols are available to help after school.

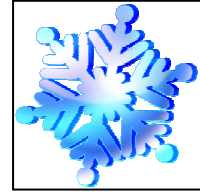
We understand police officials will be doing more supervision visits, and we are the only school releasing at 3:15!!!

Thanks for your attention to the safety for all!!!





You're invited...



To the All City Elementary

SNOWFLAKE SHUFFLE

2:00 to 4:00pm

Saturday, December 3rd



All families are invited to bring a plate of their favorite holiday treat for all to share!

FUN FUN FUN

holiday cards 📄 beads 📄 ornaments 📄 marshmallow snowmen 📄 paper chains 📄 bag decorating 📄 cookie decorating 📄
crafts 📄 beverages 📄 magic reindeer food 📄 magic scratch 📄 necklaces and more