

All City Elementary PTA Newsletter

Week I
November 28, 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
ace4news@gmail.com
www.allcitypta.org

A message from the principal:

**At a glance
Calendar Events**

- Monday, Nov 28th
-SAT 10 tests begin
- Friday, Dec 2nd
-Swimming
1:00 pm
- Saturday, Dec 3rd
-Snowflake Shuffle
2:00 pm
- Monday, Dec 5th
-PTA Board Meeting
12:00 PM
- Friday, Dec 16th
-Dow Rummel
2:00 pm

One Week in January
 (exact dates to be announced)-- All Families must have one representative attend a Parent Training Session from 11:30 to 12:00 (it will be offered each day of that week, see Principal's article in this issue for more information)

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

As you have read in earlier editions of the ACE PTA Newsletter, including last week's article written by Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pam Homan, we will be kicking off the Olweus Bully Prevention Program at ACE in January of this coming year. All ACE staff were trained in the components and expectations of this program on November 10 of this month. Students in grades 3-5 at ACE have taken a pre-program survey to allow us to look at what type of bullying behavior they have witnessed or been a part of. We will use this data in ongoing implementation of this program, just as we have examined it at the on-set to get the students perspective of the areas we need to address as we begin this important task.

Just as Sioux Falls Schools has been very pro-active in addressing student misbehavior directed toward other students (bullying behavior has been addressed by our progressive discipline plan for at least 3 years), ACE has taken an active part in making sure that students understand the implications of such behavior, and the harm that can be done with this behavior. Many times, the harm of these incidents (name-calling, making fun of students, harassing others) is not immediately visible. Rather, the harm is that of a psychological nature, not leaving visible signs, but leaving a lasting imprint within the psyche of the students who was the victim of such behavior. Many times, the person initiating the behavior does not know the harm that is being done, but most critical cases to address are those where the actions are intentional, and directly intended to cause harm on a student who may be unprepared for such actions directed their way.

At ACE, the program will include several components—classroom meetings at each grade level, directly discussing bullying behavior and the results of such behavior; a kick-off assembly will set a proactive and upbeat approach to being good citizens and being responsible community members with our fellow ACE students and families; several ACE Family activities each month will focus on our responsibilities within this community we call ACE, some of which will directly be addressing what to do when bullying behavior is observed or encountered; posters and information will be posted and referred to with students, as we continue to address the issues within this program; and a parent training session is being planned for one week in January.

The way this will be implemented is as follows: One full week in January, a series of parent training sessions will be planned within the timeframe of 11:30 to 12:00, each day of that week. Watch upcoming information in ACE newsletter about this training. Each family will be expected to have this training session attended by at least one member of the family who does their Classroom Commitment time. The best situation is that each morning session person plan to stay an extra 15 minutes that day and complete the training. Because it will be a specific week, week one or two parents (the opposite week) will need to make arrangements to come attend the training. We will make provisions for the full day parents on that week to attend the training, and also get lunch and maintain their commitment responsibilities. For this one week, our schedules at family and other activities planned for that time will be a bit adjusted, as parents attend this important training.

I hope your Thanksgiving holiday was wonderful, and anticipate a lot of fun activities at school in the upcoming weeks as we head into the Christmas season. Don't forget the Snowflake Shuffle coming up this Saturday afternoon at ACE!

A GREAT big thank you to all of the families that worked so hard to provide some fabulous activities for our students!!!

Tarabelsi	Cooking w/ Executive Chef @ WHCC
Lundquist	Irish Dancing @ Balleraena Dance Studio
Chedester	Tour of Results Radio Staion
Schetnan	USF Drama Activity/Tour
Anderson	Making a winter bird feeder
Morrison	Gingerbread Opera
Gordon	“Gobbling” good Thanksgiving crafts
Lent	Smoothie Sensations
Young	Hands on Banking
Etrheim	Everyday Magic
Stirling	Sign Language Lesson



There is no Choice Day for December so we will see you in January!

CHOICE DAY REMINDER— To all parents who have an upcoming Choice Day assignment— It is your responsibility to provide the activity you are planning. Please have back up plans in place, as at times, invited presenters or activities arrive late or have conflicts on short notice, and you, the parent must stand ready to provide a quality activity for up to 13 students for an hour and a half. We have had several situations this year at the last minute that if plans would have been ready, would have made the event flow much better for all involved. We will be providing additional reminders to all Choice Day assignees.

PTA General Meeting December 5th Agenda

- I. Call to Order
 - a. General Announcements
 - b. Approval of November meeting minutes
- II. Parent Co-Coordinator update – Stacey C.
- III. Principal Update
- IV. Teacher Updates
- V. Treasurer's Report
- VI. Unfinished Business
- VII. New Business
 - a. Online Fundraiser Update
- VIII. General Announcements
 - a. Next Meeting: January 9, 2012. Lunch to be provided by Chad Dykstra

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE PTA NEWSLETTER

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!!



Reflections Program 2011 - 2012

ACE Parents –

Students at All City Elementary are invited to participate in the 2011 – 2012 Reflections program, an initiative of the national PTA designed to enhance a quality arts education.

Students are encouraged to create and submit original works of art in one or more of the following six areas:

- dance choreography,
- film production,
- literature,
- musical composition,
- photography,
- visual art (which includes art forms such as drawing, painting, print making, and collage).

Students can enter work in more than one category, and, if they wish, they can enter more than one piece artwork in each category. So, as just one example, a single student might decide to enter a piece of writing in the literature category and two (2) photographs in the photography category.

All entries are organized into two divisions: primary (K-2) and intermediate (3-5). Student works are critiqued against other works in the same grade division, with judging and awards given at the local, city, state, and national levels. All participants receive recognition.

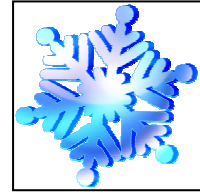
Information about the Reflections program—including the items listed below—can be found in the “Documents” section of the ACE PTA website (<http://allcitypta.org/>):

- **ACE Student Entry Form:** This form is a printable PDF with information for our local PTA already inserted. Please complete and print one (1) copy of this form for each entry.
- **Consent Form:** New this year, a completed consent form must accompany any artwork submission and Student Entry Form if a person’s recognizable image or voice is included in the submission.
- **General Student Participation Rules**
- **Category-Specific Rules**
 - Dance Choreography
 - Film Production
 - Literature (Writing)
 - Musical Composition
 - Photography
 - Visual Arts (drawing, painting, collage, etc.)
- **Links to additional information and a gallery of national award winners from previous years.**

Any questions or requests for additional information can be directed to Greg Dyer by phone (605.731.6250) or email (gad@sio.midco.net). **Entries for the Reflections Program may be dropped off at the ACE office. The EXTENDED DEADLINE for entries is Monday, December 12th.**



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

With anticipation of a special bearded visitor!