

All City Elementary PTA Newsletter

Week 2
December 19, 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

- Thursday, Dec. 22nd
-Class Holiday Party
- Dec. 23rd—Jan 2nd
NO SCHOOL
- Friday, January 6,
2012 at 10:15 am

Sheltered Reality
Assembly to kick off
Olweus Bully Prevention
Program

January 16-20 !--

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) Even if you are a WEEK TWO ONLY parents, you must have one family representative attend! Attendance will be tracked!

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

From the PTA President:
**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!**

We wish all of the ACE families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2013! Have a wonderful break. See you all next year!!!

Sincerely;

The Stearns family

Scott, Lori, Lindsee, Peyton,
Kade and Ella

Serving and Learning

By Dr. Pam Homan, Superintendent



When most people think of lessons learned in school, they think of math equations and literary principles. But, the Sioux Falls Public Schools are committed to teaching students more than just academics. The District strongly believes in helping each student learn what it means to be a responsible citizen – someone who realizes the world is bigger than the landscape they see directly in front of them.

While we certainly have goals to improve math and reading scores, we also highlight Student Personal Growth Skills as one of our priority areas. This goal keeps us focused on improving students' 21st century life skills, improving their health and well-being and increasing the ways in which they are active participants in their community.

Our students experience service-learning through a variety of projects, all year long. But, it is during the fall and winter months when they really step up.

Community service projects are happening in every public school across the city. Here are just a few ways in which our children are helping the community: Harvey Dunn Elementary conducted a "Snug as a Bug" coat drive for the Center for Hope. Recently, the school held a movie night in the gym, with the entrance fee being a box of Mac 'n Cheese. Collected boxes were proudly donated to the Mobile Food Pantry, which serves needy families in neighborhoods throughout Sioux Falls. Students are also lending a hand to the Salvation Army by ringing the bell at a local red kettle.

Students at Rosa Parks Global Studies/World Language Elementary understand the world is much bigger than their school, their community and even their continent. They are participating in both domestic and international community service. While learning about Asia, second grade students have logged on to freerice.com. For every question they answer correctly, a grain of rice is donated to needy families across the globe. Third graders are volunteering for Lunch is Served – a group that packs sack lunches for day-laborers while fourth grade students are collecting pajamas for the abused and neglected who seek shelter at the Children's Inn.

The District's five middle schools are good-naturedly embattled in a cross-town food fight, collecting items for the Food Pantry. As an extension of the challenge, Memorial Middle School has reached out to its feeder elementary schools – Discovery, Hayward, Oscar Howe, Pettigrew and JFK – to invite younger students to help in the fight against hunger. The total items collected this year remains a mystery, but last year 8,428 items were donated from the elementary schools alone... on top of the thousands and thousands of items and cash donated at all five middle schools.

The high schools are also getting into the spirit of community service by collecting items for the Salvation Army Angel Tree and other worthwhile organizations. The WHS Tribal club is collecting new and gently used books for guests at The Banquet and the Roosevelt High School Student Council is collecting cash to help build a school in Sierra Leone, Africa.

These projects encourage students to be responsible citizens who recognize needs both here at home and across the globe. Math and reading are important, indeed... but if we are to secure a better future for ourselves and our children, developing Student Personal Growth Skills must also rank right at the top.

Musher to Present to All City Students!

Hugh Neff lives in Tok, Alaska and on the shores of beautiful Annie Lake located near Whitehorse, Yukon. Hugh Neff is surrounded by 6,000' mountains and our 60 furry friends. He has developed a competitive long-distance racing kennel and in the past 10 years Hugh and his team have competed in 7 Iditarods and 10 Yukon Quest races. Hugh is one of a handful of mushers that have completed the Yukon Quest and Iditarod in the same year - and he's done it the last 6 years in a row! He has already signed up for both races again for 2011. This past year we competed in the Knik 200, the Copper Basin 300, the Yukon Quest, Iditarod, Roadrunner 100, Percy deWolf 200, and the Kobuk 440. That's over 3,200 miles of racing in 3 months!

Hugh will be visiting All City Elementary on December 21st in the morning. He will make a presentation to the students about his wonderful experiences. All parents are welcomed to join us on the morning of December 21 st at 9:00 AM in the gym.

Fourth and Fifth graders and their teachers are extremely excited to have Mr. Neff visit our school. For over 18 years they have presented an Iditarod unit. You may have noticed in the past the dog sled in the hall. In order to offer a few souvenirs the we will be taking preorders for some of Hugh Neff's items. Please look in your Monday folder for items that will be offered. Prices have been raised only by 50 cents or a dollar. The money raised will help 4th and 5th graders on their end of the year field trip.



MUSH - GEE - HAW

Here comes Hugh Neff, musher of the Iditarod!

Hugh Neff will be here to talk to All City Elementary students on December 21st.

As a small fund raiser 4th and 5th graders will be taking orders for items below.

Orders are due December 15th along with payment.

Prices have only been marked up by a few cents or dollars so that we can keep the cost down, yet sell these items at school.

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Check items wanted / total items / include payment

"Annie, My life on the Trail so Far..." (Book)	\$21
Laughing Eyes Kennel Hoodie (size ____)	\$45
Shirts/hats	\$21
Dog pix	1 for \$8.00/ 2 for \$11.
Used dog booties	\$2.50
Dog bandanas	1 for \$ 8.00 / 2 for \$11.00

Anything can be autographed as well!

_____ Please autograph my items.

_____ No thank you I do not need my items autographed

Special Thanks

We wanted to send out a special thank you to all who reached out to our family during this difficult time of losing our 11 month old Shih Tzu, Hurley. This is just another example of how All City is truly a loving, compassionate family. Your thoughts, cards and prayers have been much appreciated and have assisted in beginning the healing process.

Thank you all!

Sincerely;

The Stearns family

Scott, Lori, Lindsee,

Peyton, Kade and Ella

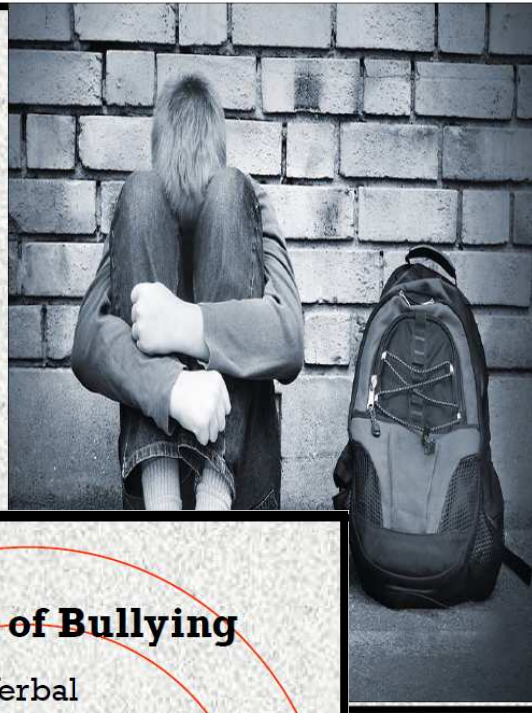
ACE Family Volunteer Giving Opportunity:

Volunteers are still needed for ACE night helping out at the backpack program of Feeding South Dakota on the evening of Tuesday, January 17, 2012.

This is an amazing opportunity for the entire family. If you can help, please send an email RSVP to Michelle Krier at kmkrier@yahoo.com with the number of adults and children that will attend. We need a total of 40 volunteers minimum but can accept all who are willing to help. We start at 6pm and are hoping to finish in about 2 to 2 1/2 hours. It is ok if you are only able to stay for a portion of this time but let me know in advance. Feeding South Dakota is located at 3511 N. 1st Avenue , Sioux Falls , SD (just east of the airport). Please RSVP by December 21. Thank you and feel free to contact me with any questions.

What Is Bullying?

A person is bullied when he or she is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons, and he or she has difficulty defending himself or herself.



Types of Bullying

Verbal
Physical
Items taken or damaged
Social: excluded or isolated
Cyber: internet & cell phone
Racial
Threatened
Sexual
Lies & Rumors

Warning Signs of Bullying

Appears sad, moody or anxious

Avoids school

Withdraws from school or social activities

Experiences a drop in grades or a decline in academic performance

Appears upset after using the computer or being online



Anti-bullying rules:

**We CAN make
a difference**



We will not bully others



We will try to help students who are bullied



We will try to include students who are left out



If we know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at home.



**We need to do the right thing
when we see bullying happening.**

**We know what to do, now it is time
to show it.**

**Be empowered to make your
school a better place to be.**