



# All City Elementary PTA Newsletter

**Week I**  
**January 3, 2012**

**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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## At a glance Calendar Events

- Friday, Jan 6th  
-Swimming YMCA
- Monday, Jan 9th  
-PTA Board Meeting  
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### 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](http://www.allcitypta.org)**

### From the Principal:

Happy New Year!! I hope you are looking forward to a great 2012 at ACE! I know I am excited for some new opportunities that this year will hold. I know the teachers are excited to continue a winter with no snow (how long will this last?), no snow pants, boots, ect!!

One of the things we have to look forward to is the beginning of the Olweus Bully Prevention Program within the Sioux Falls School District. ACE will participate in this program, and I have already written a bit about this program in earlier editions of this newsletter.

We will have a Kick-off Assembly on Friday morning, January 6, 2012 at ACE. We will be hosting a visiting drum-line group called Sheltered Reality, for this opportunity. This will be the official start of the Bully Prevention program. What else will the program bring to ACE? We will have a series of classroom discussions and meetings dealing with each of our Bully Prevention Rules in our building. These will be displayed around the building beginning January 9. Look for them the next time you are at ACE, and discuss them with your children during the month of January and February. We will also have several activities a month during Family that will lead to feeling positive about our interactions and relationships here at school.

Students will learn about all the roles in a bullying incident, and what role is the positive one for them to be involved in, should this type of situation arise. They will also learn the definition of bullying, and how they can deal with it from several different aspects. We will be conducting a series of required Parent Training sessions the week of January 16-20, each family must send one representative to one of these sessions. (See the info in this or previous issues of PTA newsletter) We will be discussing the parent role in this program during these trainings.

Also, this month, I will be running series of articles that are provided by the Olweus Program as Tips for Parents. Please read them, and consider their relevance to your specific situation. I would love to hear from you, about the usefulness of this information.

The data we collected from students indicates that we do not have a prevalent problem with bullying at ACE, but this information will be useful as ACE students prepare to move to middle school, as they interact with other SFSD student in other activities away from school, and as we continue to work to being good citizens in this community we call ACE.

Let's make it a great 2012!!

## PTA MEETING AGENDA

### Order of Meeting

- I. Call to Order
  - a. General Announcements
  - b. Approval of December meeting minutes
- II. Principal Update
- III. Teacher Updates
- IV. Treasurer's Report
- V. Unfinished Business
- VI. New Business
- VII. General Announcements
  - a. Next Meeting: February 6, 2012. Lunch to be provided by Mr. D

Check your child's Monday folder for Science Fair information!!! Get your family involved and participate in our annual Science Fair on Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>! The first deadline is January 13<sup>th</sup>, which is filling out the entry form! Questions? Email Mrs. Lundquist at [kayleen.lundquist@k12.sd.us](mailto:kayleen.lundquist@k12.sd.us)



## ***ACE Family Volunteer Giving Opportunity:***

Thank you to those who volunteered to help at ACE volunteer night at the backpack program of Feeding South Dakota on the evening of Tuesday, January 17, 2012. We will be filling grocery bags for students in need and we are still in need of 20+ helpers! This is an amazing opportunity for the entire family and all ages. If you can help, please send an email RSVP to Michelle Krier at [kmkrier@yahoo.com](mailto:kmkrier@yahoo.com) with the number of adults and children that will attend. 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 this week! Thank you and feel free to contact me with any questions.



**Olweus Definition of Bullying:** *"Bullying is when someone repeatedly and on purpose says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself."*



### **Tips for Parents:**



## **What to Do If Your Child Is Being Bullied**

If your child is being bullied at school, this can be a very painful experience for your child and your family. We are doing all we can at school to put a stop to bullying. Here are some additional things you can do to support your child if he or she is being bullied:



- Never tell your child to ignore the bullying.
- Don't blame your child for the bullying. Don't assume your child did something to provoke the bullying.
- Allow your child to talk about his or her bullying experiences. Write down what is shared.
- Empathize with your child. Tell him or her that bullying is wrong, that it is not his or her fault, and that you are glad he or she had the courage to tell you about it.
- If you disagree with how your child handled the bullying situation, don't criticize him or her. It is often very difficult for children to know how best to respond.
- Do not encourage physical retaliation.
- Check your emotions. A parent's protective instincts stir strong emotions. Although it is difficult, step back and consider the next steps carefully.
- Contact a teacher, school counselor, or principal at your school immediately and share your concerns about the bullying that your child has experienced.
- Work closely with school personnel to help solve the problem.
- Encourage your child to develop interests and hobbies that will help build resiliency in difficult situations like bullying.
- Encourage your child to make contact with friendly students in his or her class, or help your child meet new friends outside of school.
- Teach your child safety strategies, such as how to seek help from an adult.
- Make sure your child has a safe and loving home environment.
- If you or your child need additional help, seek help from a school counselor and/or mental health professional.

