



# All City Elementary PTA Newsletter

**Week 2**  
**January 9, 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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**www.allcitypta.org**

## At a glance Calendar Events

- Monday, Jan 9th  
-PTA Board Meeting
- Tuesday Jan 10th  
-District Writing Assessment
- Tuesday Jan 17th  
-Volunteer Service Opportunity  
-Feeding SD

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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**

### From the PTA President:

Welcome back – Happy 2012!!

I just want to say welcome back to everyone and a Happy New, it appears we lost something over the holidays, apparently winter took a wrong turn this year; or someone has pulled a fast one and gave it the wrong directions. Whatever the case may be we will certainly take it!

January is a very important month to the students and families of All City. We are taking a look at the subject of bullying and how damaging it can't be both physically and emotionally to the victim; as well as the innocent bystanders. I can tell you bullying can stay with you for a long time. If you have ever been bullied sometime during your life you understand what I am talking about. I remember even as far back as 3<sup>rd</sup> grade the instances that I went through with a bully in our neighborhood. Those images are still etched clearly in my mind of the torment that he put me through.

This past Friday, to kick off bullying awareness month, the students, teachers and parents were treated to a performance by the drumming group, Sheltered Reality. A group of young people who teach the importance of helping out their fellow students by being nice and helpful as well as talking about the importance of self confidence. This was truly a wonderful experience. It was fun to see the teachers involved in a little drumming as well as some students; even Mr. D swung some sticks and played cow bell! I also had the opportunity to play along when Mr. D threw me under the bus...I mean strongly urged that my musical talents were needed to help take the performance to the next level! We were a hit! I think Mrs. Lundquist stole the show with her skilled choreographed dance moves and stick work. Whatever the case, these were an extremely talented group of young people who have a passion in spreading their message.

Sheltered Reality was fantastic and the message was equally as powerful. Take a moment and ask your son or daughter what the 4 key points on the message were, but be careful don't be shocked if they shout it out loud. Oh, and one more thing, you may want to hide the pots and pans!

**Scott Stearns**

**2011-2012 PTA President**





**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 Witnesses Bullying



Many children are observers or “bystanders” in cases of bullying at school. It is important



that even students who are bystanders in a bullying situation take action to get help, so the bullying stops. We are taking steps to teach this important information to students at school. Here are some things you can do to support these efforts at home.



If your child talks to you about the bullying that he or she witnesses at school, you are encouraged to do the following:



- Teach your child how to get help without getting hurt.
- Encourage your child to verbally intervene if it is safe to do so, by saying such things as: “Cool it! This isn’t going to solve anything.”
- Tell your child not to cheer on or even quietly watch bullying. This only encourages a child who bullies—who wants to be the center of attention.
- Encourage your child to tell a trusted adult about the bullying. Talking to an adult is not “tattling”—it is an act of courage and safety. Suggest going to an adult with a friend, if that will make it easier.



- Help your child support others who tend to be bullied.
- Teach your child to include these children in activities.
- Praise and reward “quiet acts of courage”—where your child tried to do the right thing to stop bullying, even if he or she was not successful.



- Work with your child to practice specific ways he or she can help stop bullying. For example, role-play with him or her what he or she could say or do to help someone who is being bullied.



### ***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.**