



All City Elementary PTA Newsletter

Week 1
February 13, 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**

- **Tuesday Feb 14th**
-Valentine Parties
-Gala forms DUE
- **Wednesday Feb 15th**
through
Monday Feb 20th
-NO School
- **Friday Feb 24th**
-ACE serves Banquet
-Kids Care

The February Book Fair was a big success!
Thank you to everyone who stopped by during conferences!
We raised \$60.00 in One for Books for the EIC to pick out some new books!!

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

From the PTA President: **Creativity + Imagination = ARTS!!!**

If you were to ask me what my favorite hobbies are you might think it would be football, baseball, basketball, soccer basically anything that you can hit with a bat, kick with your foot, cats excluded; or throw into a net. Anyone of those answers would be correct, but what you might not know is that I love music. I play in a band and I work with a high school marching band as an instructor in the fall. Fine arts have been a major part of my life growing up and into my adulthood and I want my children to grow up and have the appreciation for the fine arts as well. Ella I'm not too worried about and Kade up until 5th grade didn't want anything to with the arts, but now is developing quite the appetite for all things arts. Don't get me wrong, if there is a choice between going to see the Huskers play or a Broadway show, let's just say GO BIG RED!

Why do the arts matter? Research shows that exposing students to the arts has tremendous benefits in the classroom and beyond. Perhaps most impressive are the direct academic boosts in math and reading. Those who play a musical instrument in the band perform better in math because of the rhythmic patterns similar to equations in math problems. Also, students who act out a story or play are better to understand and retain information in the book. The arts also help with student's ability to think critically, creatively and abstractly. In fact, a child's entire school experience can improve due to exposure to the arts helping student's development self-confidence, self control and empathy. The arts offer a space where kids can take creative risks and express themselves safely and freely.

Next time you are thinking of something to do together as a family, check out the local high schools for concerts or plays. Or check out the Washington Pavillion for upcoming shows. Make it a fun night out by dressing up, going out to dinner and catching a show! Your kids will love it and you will have something special to remember. Who knows, the Lion King may win out over Big Red!

Scott Stearns, PTA President, sstearns@sio.midco.net

Families— PLEASE WATCH YOUR E-MAIL FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST ONE OF OUR ACE FAMILIES WITH RECENT HEALTH CONCERNS.

PTA Nominations! February is the month to gather interest forms from ACE families that are interested in serving on the PTA board. This year we have Secretary and 2nd Vice President positions available for the 2012-2013 school year. Secretary is worth 20 hours of outside commitment time and a 2-yr term. 2nd Vice President is a 70 hour position. Following your 2nd Vice President year you would be 1st Vice President and the 3rd year you would be expected to be the PTA President.

Please consider submitting a letter stating why you would be a good candidate and also why you would like to have the particular position you are interested in. We are a community of learners working cooperatively to maximize individual growth and success in a changing world. Be a proactive part in our children's education!

To submit a letter of intent, please email tsspader@sio.midco.net. If you have any questions feel free to contact me, Stephanie Spader (1st Vice President) or any teacher, PTA member or Mr. D. Thank you!

Announcement:

With the increased use of electronics, some students have begun bringing readers (Kindles, Nooks, etc.) to school. The only allowable reason for bringing these from home is for reading or instructional use. The teachers all have a document that is to be signed and filed in the classroom before a student is allowed to bring an item such as this to school. The document states that the parent understands that the school is not responsible for loss of this equipment.

REMINDER:

Gala forms and money need to be turned in by **Tuesday, February 14th!!**
Any remaining tickets will be sold on a first come first serve basis on **Wednesday, February 22nd at 1:00pm** in the school entryway.
We have had a wonderful response so far!!!



The Gala Luncheon is a chance for the 5th grade children and their families to say "thank you" to the ACE community for all the time and energy they have put into helping educate and care for those students during their time at ACE. It is also a wonderful chance for all the students at ACE to get dressed up and practice their good table manners.

Points Committee to meet soon.

The ACE Points Committee will be meeting toward the end of February. This is the group that considers the commitment hours value for any out-of-classroom commitment responsibilities. Also, this group will consider any proposals for "new" out-of-class commitment positions. Get proposals to Scott Stearns or Mr. D. If you have input about hours value, that should be turned in with your evaluation of your position to Stacy Chedester, Parent Coordinator or Kari Dykstra, Parent Co-coordinator. Let any of the above know, if you have questions. **Thanks.**

ACE SERVES THE BANQUET:

TO FUND THIS EVENT, WE NEED TO SUPPORT THE MEAL WE WILL SERVE ON FEBRUARY 24. THE RECOMMENDED DONATION IS \$5.00 PER ACE FAMILY. PLEASE PUT \$5 IN AN ENVELOPE AND LABEL IT "ACE SERVES THE BANQUET" AND SEND IT TO SCHOOL IN MONDAY FOLDER OR TURN IN TO OFFICE.
THANKS

Any child brought to the office by parents or staff need to be brought to Mrs. Helming, Mrs. Meyer, or Mrs. Sundvold, the clerical who sit at the front desk. If any information needs to be shared with the school nurse, they all know how to pass this information on to her. Thanks for your care for all our students.

Thank you to all the generous participants who supplied food for the teachers conferences, it is greatly appreciated! A SPECIAL thanks to all of you who sign up time after time, year after year, you make the world a beautiful place!

Big thanks to Steph Hanson, Linda Dill and Mr. D for crockpot cleanup, always a treat.....!

Joni Merkley and Sarah Sarbacker