

Principal News

December 5, 2011

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

We had a great turnout for our parent conferences that were held the week of November 7th. We had 93% of our parents/guardians come for conferences. This is the best turnout we have ever had. My thanks go to our staff that persisted in getting parents to come by making several appointments with parents.

A WARM WELCOME

We have hired a new guidance counselor, Jennifer Huerth. Mrs. Carlson left our district for a full time position. Mrs. Huerth has just completed her work at the University of Maine and joined us last week. She is excited to begin and I know she will be a great addition to our staff. We have also hired Mr. Hathaway in our resource room and Mrs. McCabe for our Title I math program. We welcome them all to the Vickery School.

CIPS UPDATE

Fran Farr, our CIPS consultant, is reviewing our plan. It should have been at the DOE by December 1st. As part of our plan we will be attending two workshops in the month of December. At the first workshop, Sarah Allen and I will have the opportunity to review our SPED data and determine next steps we can take to help them with state assessments. The second workshop will be a follow up to the work we completed this past summer on Formative Assessments. Tracy Hallee, Jan Rollins, Anne Miller and I will attend this one-day workshop to support us as we implement our plan with staff.

FOOD SERVICE

We also welcome Carol Thompson and Chelsea Cobb to our food service staff.

Don't forget, school lunch is \$2.05. Please send in the appropriate amount when paying for your child's hot lunch!

Winter Weather

The winter weather is coming. Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately. If they want to play in the snow, they will need snow pants. If they do not have snow pants they will have to stay on the tarred area of the playground. Fresh air is important for everyone. Warm coats, snow pants, boots, hats, and mittens are essential. If the temperature or wind chill is severe students will remain inside for all recesses. The following guidelines are used in the event of severe weather.

- If the air temperature is below 10 degrees – we do not go out.
- If the air temperature is above 10 degrees, but there is a wind chill below 10 degrees – we do not go out.
- If the air temperature with the wind chill is 10~15 degrees – we go out for 10 minutes.
- If the air temperature with the wind chill is above 15 degrees we go out for the entire 20 minutes.

Please inform your child's teacher if there is a medical reason for your child to stay inside. We will need a doctor's note informing us of your child's condition. We no longer supply used clothing for students. Please inform the school if you need assistance acquiring outdoor clothing.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

December 5 – Wreath Pick Up & PTO meeting @ 5:30 – Vickery School

December 6 – K-2 – Art show and Music Concert @ Warsaw Gym -@ 5:30

December 7 – Early Dismissal – Manson Park dismissed @ 12:15
Vickery dismissed @ 12:30
Teacher in-service

December 16 – Last day of school for Christmas Break

January 2 - Holiday

January 3 – School Resumes

PARENT TIPS

This article comes from the family education website. You may want to look at this site for suggestions for parents of children in kindergarten to high school. It has tips for helping your child in math, reading, and writing.

Homework Checklist for Parents

by Family Education Staff

- Provide a quiet, well-lit space, away from distractions and with all the right study materials -- paper, pens and pencils, books, a dictionary, a desk, etc.
- Try to find a separate space for each of your children, or schedule quiet times for homework in designated spaces.
- Create a regular schedule, allowing for adequate study and free time.
- Limit TV time, and do not allow it during homework.
- When possible, be available to answer questions. Try doing a problem or two together, then watch as the child tries the next one.
- Avoid simply giving an answer. Instead, ask questions that let your child see the problem in smaller, sequential steps.
- Provide your kids with a notebook for writing down assignments. When they're finished, compare the homework and the notebook to make sure everything is done.
- See if the school has a homework hotline (that lists your child's assignments) and/or a homework helpline (assistance for your child).
- Review completed and graded assignments. Discuss errors to be sure your child understands the material.
- Share any concerns with your children's teachers about the amount or type of homework assigned. Be sure to let them know if your children are having difficulty or are unable to do most of it by themselves.

Read more on Family Education:

<http://school.familyeducation.com/homework/parenting/38543.html#ixzz1fWxqCrg3>

*Happy Holidays
from
The staff of the
Vickery School
and
Manson Park School*