



Principal's Talk

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

As you may be aware, the consolidation vote was passed last month. It is now time for us to work diligently to make the appropriate decisions for our children's future here in the district. It looks like the first decision made will be to keep our current 4th grade students in the building, as 5th grade will be housed at the elementary school for the 2012-2013 school year. I promise to keep you informed as progress happens toward the goal of maintaining a single campus. Single bussing is the next item the board will be looking at during the month of January. They are currently weighing feasibility versus student impact if we are to go to a single bus run in the district.

With the current state of the economy affecting many of our families, more individuals may be impacted due to reduced work hours or lack of employment. I would like to remind families that you now might be entitled to free or reduced lunches at school for your children, even if you did not qualify in the fall. You can re-apply at any time during the year. Applications can be obtained at any school building or on our district web site at www.wgcsd.org. You will find the forms by clicking the food service icon and going to the Healthy Kids Lunchroom section.

Last year we received a grant from the Corning Foundation to help support a new initiative in the area of science. This same grant is available to support a science fair again this year; plans are now underway for March 17. Please be looking for future flyers about this exciting project. Information will also be posted on the elementary school's main website page. I want to thank a parent volunteer, Sonya McCauley, for all her efforts to help make this event happen for the second year in a row. Events like science fairs can encourage our students to think creatively and gain additional experiences beyond the regular school day.

This is also a reminder to families who have 3 & 4 year olds in the home to please call the school with your child's name and contact information. We want to make sure all families are notified when Pre-K and Kindergarten registration comes around.

Respectfully yours,
Rod Weeden, Principal



PTO News

Breakfast with Santa was another great success the year. Special thanks go out to all the music students and teachers for providing holiday music. We would like to thank Santa for coming, and give a big thank you to all the PTO holiday elves for taking pictures and providing table service during the event. The holiday gift store had many quality gifts and crafts for the students to purchase, and Curly's Restaurant provided us with the wonderful food, once again.

The PTO Cherrydale fundraiser was another huge success and we would like to thank all the parents and community members for helping with this project. It looks like we will have made over \$10,000, after expenses. Thank you to all the PTO helpers for organizing and passing out fundraiser items to the appropriate families.

As a reminder, we need lots of good parents to help with many of our PTO activities, so please consider becoming an active member. We will be looking for help with some of our winter events, like roller skating, swimming nights and clothing sales at sporting events. Consider coming to our next PTO meeting scheduled for Jan 11th at 5:30 PM in the elementary school library.

IMPORTANT DATES



Jan 3rd – School reopens
Jan 3rd – School Board Mtg, 6:30
Jan 11th – PTO Meeting, 5:30 PM
Jan 16th – M.L.King, Jr. Day–**No School**
Jan 17th – BOE Work Session, 6:30 PM
Jan 27th – End of ES Marking Period
Jan 30th - Conference Day – **No School**
Feb 3rd - Report Cards Go Home