

Sedgwick School Community Newsletter

May 15, 2008

Great Work

There's been some excellent work received from **Dakota Gillen, Bryce Dannenberg, Morgan Dauk, Alex Burbank, Andy Atherton, Kaula Maciejko, Santana Warren, Daniel Gray, Aidan Fernandez, Grace Tobey, Everett Carter, and Emma Pickering.**

Summer Programs

The school will not be offering summer programs this year. Instead, the Sedgwick Childrens' Committee will work with parents and area summer programs to provide partial scholarships for Sedgwick children. Students who would like to attend any legitimate summer program should ask those organizations to contact the school for more information about how the Sedgwick Childrens' Committee can help. Parents should do the same. Scholarships will be granted according to need.

Craft Fair Coming

Although Thanksgiving is a long way off, it's time to think about the upcoming Craft Fair to be held the Saturday before Thanksgiving 2008. We are looking for crafters and artisans who want to purchase a table for display of their wares.

The purpose of the Craft Sale is to raise funds for school technology. It is important for this to be a whole school & whole community event, so if you've got something to sell, please sign up for a table. **An application to reserve a table was included in your child's communication folder today.**

We are also still looking for people to help organize the event. Please contact Don Buckingham for more information.

Authors' Day

Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of **Margaret Bixby**, with the help of many others, Friday's Authors' Day was a fantastic event. **Rose Wood** also worked extra long hours in the kitchen to prepare an African meal that surpassed all previous efforts. The presenters and many volunteers did some fabulous things for our kids. Thank you to one and all for your help.

Important Notice!

TONIGHT (May 15) at 6:00 PM, there will be a special town meeting at the Town Meeting House. On the agenda for the meeting will be the school budget as it was originally proposed in January. This budget represents a significant decrease over last year's budget with much of the reduction coming from the retirement of two teachers, Mrs. Rhodes and Mrs. Werth, who will not be replaced.

If the budget passes at town meeting, there will be a ballot vote the following day. Under the new state law, we are required to have a referendum vote following a positive vote at town meeting. Polls will be open from 1:00-6:00 PM TOMORROW Friday, May 16.

Should the budget pass both steps, it will be enacted by the board.

It is very important for parents and members of the community to attend the special town meeting and to vote on Friday. The cuts already made to the budget move us backwards. Next year, we will be combining grades 1 and 2 and grades 3 and 4 so that each is one classroom. This is on top of the very significant cuts in personnel made last year. Any additional cuts will be catastrophic to the school program. **Please exercise your right to vote at the Town Meeting House on Thursday, May 15 at 6:00 PM and Friday, May 16 at the balloting between 1:00 and 6:00 PM.**

On the Friday balloting, you

vote YES in order to pass the school budget or NO not to pass the school budget. The exact wording of the item is in a notice sent home earlier this week.

Workshop Day Coming May 23

There is a Union 76 workshop day scheduled for May 23. Teachers will be here at Sedgwick grading and assessing writing prompts in the morning. In the afternoon, Sedgwick teachers will work on adjusting classrooms to the combined classes we have planned for next year.

We appreciate the understanding of parents of our need for this time. It is well used and greatly needed.

Kindergarten Screening/Registration

Kindergarten screening and registration will happen on Thursday, May 22. **There will be no school for this year's kindergarten students on that day.** If you have not signed up for a screening appointment by today, please contact Mrs. Grindle at 359-5002 to do so.

PECEC Summer Program

The Peninsula Early Childhood Education Center (PECEC) is offering a summer program for children ages 3-6 years old. The program will begin June 23 and will run until August 29. For information, contact Laurie Friend at 359-2464.

Week at a Glance

Thurs. Special Town Mtg. 6 PM
Fri. VOTE at the polls 1-6 PM
Grades 3, 5, 6 Field Trip
Tues. School Board Mtg. 6 PM
Wed. Spring Concert @ 6 PM
Thurs. Gr. K registration/screening
No school for kindergarten

Special Town Meeting TONIGHT @ 6:00 p.m.