

North Park News

February 14 – 18, 2010

www.grpublicschools.org/northpark



3375 Cheney NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525 819-2848

Office Hours 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

A NOTE FROM MRS. SORGE...

It has recently come to my attention that there are some concerns about the communication at North Park Schools. While I have only heard from 3 parents, that is enough for me to know that there are many more who do NOT contact the school.

I wanted to be sure to send my apologies and some ideas and clarification.

- Newsletters come out on Mondays. They are being sent home with the "Youngest and Only" students to avoid duplication and unnecessary paper usage.
- Beginning today, the newsletter will be available on our website listed at the top of the page.
- I will send the newsletter to the operators of the Facebook and the PTA websites for it to be posted there as well.
- Robo-calls will be utilized beginning with the next major event to keep everyone informed.
- E-mail? – I can send the school newsletters and cancellation information via e-mail if you beginning with the next major event to keep everyone informed.
- E-mail? – I can send the school newsletters and cancellation information via e-mail if you quickly send me your preferred e-mail address. Send me an e-mail with the word "Newsletter" in the subject line. (Please be sure to identify yourself as address do not always match names.)
- As always, feel free to call the office or stop by to visit. My door is always open.

Many events have changed in short notice this year. I want to be sure we are as effective as possible with sharing the information.

CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for March 1, 3, and 9 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm. On page 3 of the newsletter, you will find a scheduling preference form. Please fill in your preferred conference times and return it to school on or before Friday, February 18.



KID'S FOOD BASKET COLLECTION

Due to our unscheduled mid-winter break, we will be extending the collection of items to make Trail Mix for Kid's Food Basket. Items are SLOWLY coming in, but we need a lot more participation to reach our goal of 1,000 bags.

Please consider sending in items such as:

- cheerios
- fruit snacks
- dried fruit
- goldfish
- pretzels
- animal crackers
- dried fruit
- goldfish
- pretzels
- animal crackers
- chex-type cereal
- any other small, healthy snacks that would be yummy in Trail Mix.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP PROBLEMS

The recent snow and cold weather has caused quite a few issues with drop-off and pick-up routines. The procedures remain the same as when school started.

Students are to be dropped off and picked up from the south parking lot off of North Park. Unless you are handicapped and have a license or permit, please do not park in the handicap spaces. GRPS security will be called to issue tickets to those who are taking spaces. As a courtesy to our neighbors, do not block driveways at drop-off and pick-up time.

Students should not be dropped off before 8:50 a.m. each day. There is no supervision before that time and students are not allowed in the building before then. Unless accompanied by an adult for sign in after school starts, students should not enter the building through the front doors. Students enter through door B for LOOP in the morning door C for breakfast at 8:50 and doors A, B and C when the bells ring.

All visitors entering the building during school hours (8:30 – 4:00) are required to sign in at the office. There are NO door C for breakfast at 8:50 and doors A, B and C when the bells ring.

All visitors entering the building during school hours (8:30 – 4:00) are required to sign in at the office. There are NO exceptions, no matter how well we know you.

~ CALENDAR ~

FEBRUARY

- 14 – Valentine's parties and 4,5,6 "Dance"
- 15, 17, 22, 24 – Basketball practice – 4:05 North Park Gym
- 16 – 4th grade trip to Meijer Gardens
- 16 – Schools of Choice Open House – 5:30 – 8:30 GR Frod Middle School
- 19 – Basketball game vs. Aberdeen – 11:00 Creston High School Gym
- 21 – **NO SCHOOL** - Professional Development
- 22 – Regional Spelling Bee
- 23 – 4,5,6 Engineering Day at Van Andel Museum – 10:20 to 2:30
- 24 – 5th grade to GR Symphony
- 26 – Basketball game vs. Palmer – 11:00 Creston High School Gym



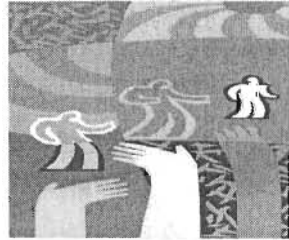
Responsible and Ready to Learn
 Our Best Work
 Courteous
 Kind
 Safe

TODAY, I ROCKED

At North Park our motto is "Being a Husky ROCKS". ! The students are given blue slips that say *Today, I ROCKed!* for demonstrating the character traits it takes to be a North Park Husky. Every adult that works in our building, including all support staff, are able to give these small tokens of recognition to students. The classroom teachers keep a tally of the number of slips received by the students in their room. These total are displayed on a large graph on the wall by the library. Every two months, the class with the greatest total receives a whole-class celebration. Our first classroom to win for October/November was Mrs. Davidson's room. Our December/January winners were Ms. Hentschel's room. Great work kids!

THANK YOU!!!

Nothing is accomplished in isolation. North Park Schools submitted the application for the Meijer Good Schools for Grand Rapids grant. It took a lot of time and input to put together. We would like to send a HUGE thank you Maureen Nollette, Dave Clark, Jill Essenburg, and Marissa Gonzalez who all worked with the passion of parents and staff members who are dedicated to the North Park Schools Community. Now we just have to wait for the results.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

One of the many points of pride for North Park is our commitment to learning through serving. We have quite a list of completed projects and a few more to come. Here is a list of the whole-school projects we will be involved in during the rest of the year.

Week of February 21 – Jump Rope for Heart. Look for information to come home from Ms. Wright on this project.

Month of March – United Way Read-n-Give program, an initiative to collect used children's books. Information will come home on March 1st with the kick-off to Reading Month

Give program, an initiative to collect used children's books. Information will come home on March 1st with the kick-off to Reading Month

Month of April – Blood Drive sign up. Children will be working to find people to sign up to donate blood on Monday, April 25 from 12:00 – 5:00 pm in the school gym.

Month of May – Walk-a-Thon. Students will be collecting pledges and walking to raise money for the PTA to put toward a greenhouse for North Park. All grades will participate.

ENROLLMENT DRIVE

GRPS has given a challenge to each elementary school to enroll 20 new students to the district. This means working together to draw back those students who have left to go to Charters and Private schools. We are looking for ALL ideas to help up with this. North Park is a terrific place for kids and families. Let's work to spread the word.

KINDERGARTEN, HERE I COME

The Van Andel Museum will once again play host to *Kindergarten, Here I Come*. Join us on Wednesday, March 9 at 5:30 pm at the museum and receive information on the kindergarten programs at North Park and all other schools in GRPS, kindergarten readiness and the services available in the district. Please contact the school office for more information.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Multi Cultural Night

- March 24 6:00 – 8:00

Spring Break

- April 1 – 10

GRPS Parade of Schools

April 14 5:00 – 7:00

Spring Break

- April 1 – 10

GRPS Parade of Schools

- April 14 5:00 – 7:00
- April 16 10:00 – 12:00

ALL elementary schools will be open for visitations.

North Park Blood Drive

- April 25 12:00 – 5:00

By the Kids - POETRY

Coyote

Sprinting through the wind
The coyote shows its teeth

Brings its claws

ATTACK!

By Miguel Herrera

Lightning

BOOM!

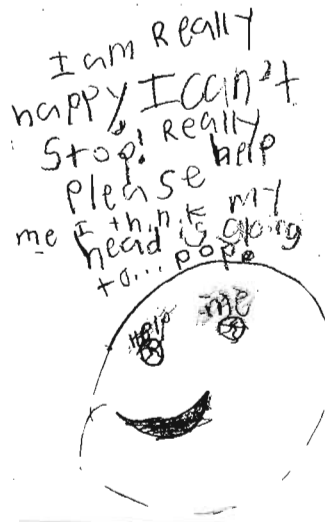
BRIGHT BURSTING

CRACK HOT

ELECTRIC

SCARY WHITE

By Ronnie Brailey



By Luke Holmes

Weekly Lunch-at-a-Glance

Put money in your lunch account at www.mealpayplus.com

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<u>BREAKFAST</u> Turkey Sausage Breakfast Bites	<u>BREAKFAST</u> **Breakfast Bagel	<u>BREAKFAST</u> Mini Pancakes Yogurt Cup	<u>BREAKFAST</u> *Sausage Gravy Breakfast	<u>BREAKFAST</u> Breakfast Burrito
<u>LUNCH</u> Turkey Burger Whole Wheat Bun Carrot Sticks w/Hummus Rold Gold Heartzels Jonagold Apple	<u>LUNCH</u> Baked Mostaccioli Whole Grain Garlic Toast Tossed Salad Peaches	<u>LUNCH</u> Teriyaki Dippers Fluffy Rice Whole Wheat Breadstick Sugar Snap Peas Fresh Oranges	<u>LUNCH</u> Chicken Fajita Romaine Ribbons Shredded Cheese Fresh Salsa Banana	<u>LUNCH</u> Ultimate Cheese Pizza Celery Sticks Juicy Watermelon President's Cookies

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Child(ren) _____

Please indicate preferred dates. (Kindergarten teachers will only be available on March 1 and 3 for evening

Child(ren) _____

Please indicate preferred dates. (Kindergarten teachers will only be available on March 1 and 3 for evening conferences.)

_____ Tuesday, March 1 4:30 – 7:30 pm

_____ Thursday, March 3 4:30 – 7:30 pm

_____ Wednesday, March 9 4:30 – 7:30 pm

Detach and return to school on or before *Friday, February 18, 2011.*

**Please Note the Following Regarding
Communicable Diseases and Health Concerns**
(Board of Education Policy 8510)

Students should be kept home from school when they are ill. Symptoms of communicable diseases include:

- Abdominal cramps or pain
- Chills
- Complaints of sore throat
- Cough that disturbs normal activity
- Diarrhea – more than three (3) stools in twenty-four (24) hours
- Fever – above one-hundred-and-one (101) degrees
- Sores on the skin with pus or liquid drainage
- Unexplained rash or blisters
- Unexplained shortness of breath
- Unexplained stiff back or neck
- Unexplained tiredness that prevents normal activity
- Vomiting – more than two (2) times in twenty-four (24) hours
- Wheezing

Students who have unexplained symptoms of communicable diseases may be excluded from school. Parent(s)/guardian(s) should keep their student home from school until they do not have symptoms or present a statement from a licensed healthcare provider that the student is not contagious and may return to school. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) who have questions or concerns are directed to contact their school nurse.

HEALTH CONCERNS

All parent(s)/guardian(s) are asked to complete the GRPS medical information form at the start of each school year. This form is used to inform the school when students have a health condition such as diabetes, asthma, seizures and so on. The school nurse shall plan care for students with health conditions while they are in school. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) with questions or needing additional help are directed to contact their school nurse.

In the event of a medical emergency, the school shall call the *Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT)* and/or the school nurse. They shall administer first aid and call 9-1-1 if needed. Parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be notified of medical emergencies as soon as possible. If unable to reach a parent/guardian, school staff shall contact others listed on the medical information form. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are asked to make sure current phone numbers for themselves and for those who are to be contacted in an emergency are included on their student's form.