

Allisonville PTO Press



Aladdin

January 2013



*Pomerence's
Place*

Always Something
Happening!



Happy New Year, and welcome back to our Grade 'A' IB certified school! Hopefully all of you had a relaxing semester break. We're off and running already with a multitude of events and activities, starting with our PTO Executive Board meeting on the 11th. Keep your eyes open for Dad's Club Movie Night, Everybody Counts, Amazing Race, and Chinese Festival/New Year.

Dad's Club hosts their annual FREE movie night Jan 11th. Doors open at 6pm for a night of movie fun. Bring a blanket or sleeping bag for this family event (children do need to be supervised by an adult). A hot dog dinner will be available for only \$3.00. Drinks, candy and popcorn will also be available for purchase. As always, a big thank you to Brian Boak and the Dad's Club for all they do.

Volunteers are always needed for 'Everybody Counts', which runs from 1/15-1/18 this year. Students enjoy and benefit from this week of teaching and learning about how we can all contribute, no matter what. Thanks go out to Shannon Farrell and Jean Childers-Arnold for coordinating this worthwhile activity.

Amazing Race Math Game Night is a great way for families to practice math skills together. Join us as we race from continent to continent solving math problems. Snacks and prizes provided!

We'll end the month with our Chinese Festival on January 25th, from 6-8:30pm. Don't miss this family event, which includes a special performance by some of our teachers.

As always, thanks for all you do!

WTSF UPDATE on Your Gifts at Work

GREAT NEWS for Washington Township Schools

Last week Superintendent Dr. Nikki Woodson proudly announced that after several years of very hard work by the faculty and administrators, ALL seven elementary schools have been officially authorized to be **International Baccalaureate World Schools**. This initiative is transforming the teaching and learning in WT schools and sets the District apart from every other school district in the State of Indiana. We are one of only a handful of public school districts in the country that have achieved this status. BIG news for WT schools!

MILLION DOLLAR CAMPAIGN GOING STRONG

Now co-chaired by **Perry Griffith** and **Dave Carter**, parents in the District and products of Washington Township Schools, to date over \$800,000 has been raised to support all the students in the District.

A **BIG THANK YOU** to hundreds and hundreds of donors including teachers, staff, parent and community members, who have helped to make half of this commitment possible to allow the Foundation to gift and pledge a total of \$400,000. Allocated out of the WTSF Annual Fund, this amount largely fulfills the 35% of the grant budget policy to underwrite WT Professional Development for faculty.

The other \$400,000 is thanks to very generous support of over 30 other committed teachers, staff, parents and community members who have given or pledged gifts from \$1000 to \$150,000. A donor plaque will be displayed in the main hallway at the H. Dean Evans Community & Education Center.

If you would like to be a part of this exciting fundraising opportunity, please contact Ginny Hacker at ghacker@msdwt.k12.in.us. There is still room on that plaque for a number of names!

Save the Dates!

Great North Run

Saturday, March 9, 2013 at North Central High School

GRANT DEADLINES

January 15, 2013

Applications are available at wtsfoundation.org

Our school is participating in the Marsh Fresh Ideas for Education program! It's a Fantastic way to earn much needed FREE equipment & supplies for our school. IF YOU HAVEN'T yet registered your Fresh Idea, O'Malia's Coupon Plus or Main Street Market Reward\$ card, please do so at: www.marsh.net, or at your local store's customer service desk. Our school code is 28849.

Coming Soon: Labels for Education class collection contest. Watch for flyers to come home.



From the PTO



Happy New Year Allisonville Families!

We had a super busy and fun semester end, highlighted by our 5th grades' spectacular presentation of Aladdin. Congratulations to all of the 5th graders, Mrs. Sukup, and all of her helpers...you are ALL shining stars!

Our Toys for Tots toy drive and holiday luncheons remain wonderful traditions at Allisonville. Jennifer Stonebraker and Lara Boulton, along with their volunteers, transformed our school into a winter wonderland! As a school, we donated hundreds of toys! What a wonderful way to celebrate the season by giving to children in need. Many thanks to the students and guests attending these festive events.

PTO/Dad's Club upcoming events include: Everybody Counts, Chinese Festival, Talent Show, Movie Night, Golf Outing and the Spring plant sale.

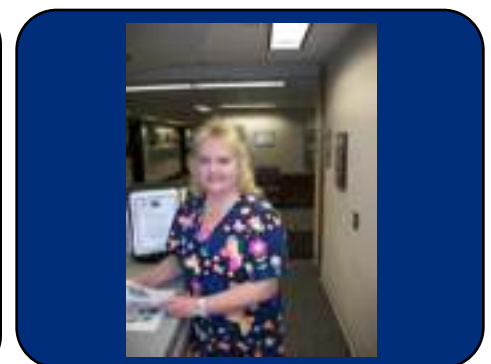
As always, thanks so much for your continued support and involvement in PTO. We couldn't do it without all of you!

From the office



As you all know by now, we love classroom visitors and volunteers. Bearing that in mind, please continue to work with us as we ask you to sign in and wear a name tag every time you come to school. Students picked up for early release by anyone other than a legal guardian need to have a completed emergency card with any adult authorized to pick up listed on the card. Forgotten lunches, backpacks, projects, etc., should be left at the front desk, with the student collecting the item at a time convenient to teacher and student. Thanks also for understanding that visits with students need to be limited to lunchtime, conferences with teachers are scheduled in advance, as are birthday celebrations. Please accept our apologies in advance if we stop you from making an unscheduled classroom visit.

From Mrs. Reeves



Parents please remember

that it is still flu season, and there are a lot of germs in the air. If your child has a fever of 100 or more and/or headache, sore throat, cough, sneezing, fatigue, body aches, these could be signs of the flu.

For the well being of everyone, please keep sick children home until they are fever free for 24 hours. Please don't send a student who has been sick back to school until they are feeling better, and certainly not if they have been recently vomiting.



Hope you all had a wonderful holiday break!



A Student's View

What's the best thing about Allisonville?

All the teachers are really nice, and so are all my friends!

Lainey Decker

Any concerns about Middle School next year?

Eastwood is so huge that I'm afraid I won't be able to find my way around all the different teachers and subjects. I like staying in the same room with one teacher.

Favorite TV show?

I like *Glee* because I love music and dance.

Read any good books lately?

I'd recommend 'Hunger Pains', by Harverd Lampoon. It's a parody of 'The Hunger Games'.

Where did you grow up and go to school?

I grew up and went to school in Merrillville, IN.

and

Tell us a little about your family.

My mother and father have been married for 31 years, and they live in Merrillville, IN. My brother is 26. He is an actor/singer, and he lives in New York. My husband and I have been married for 2 years, and we live in Fishers, IN.

What's a typical weekend for you?

A typical weekend includes hanging with my friends and family.

What are some of the challenges you see schools facing today?

In an ever-changing society with rigorous standards, educators must continue to put our focus in teaching and reaching all students. We have the important task of developing lifelong learners, who are thinkers and problem solvers, equipped with the knowledge and skills to be well-rounded contributing members to our future society. Our challenge is to make sure that all students are prepared.

What surprised you the most about being an administrator?

Every day is different. Some days, the office can be so quiet, and other days, the exact opposite. I taught 9 years at Allisonville before moving into this position so I was aware that as an administrator, just as a teacher, you wear many hats. I was very fortunate to transition into this role at a school that I was already familiar with. The other really COOL aspect is that I get to go into classrooms every day and see all the wonderful teaching and learning happening at Allisonville. As a teacher, you don't always get out of the classroom to observe your colleagues. When I walk into the classrooms, it really makes me smile! I am so proud to be a part of Allisonville.

What are some of your holiday traditions?

For the holidays, I always hang with my family. In my family, one holiday we celebrate is Christmas. Typically, my parents have all of their siblings, their siblings' kids, and even their siblings' grandkids over to the house. We have a big feast, exchange gifts, and play games. It is a lot of fun!

From Mrs. Beard

Mrs. Beard!



Parent Council Update

by Shelley Clark

PARENT COUNCIL NEEDS MORE PARENT INVOLVEMENT! Parent Council is a group of parents representing each school in the district, serving as a unified voice in support of excellent education for all children in MSDWT. In addition to educating parents on a wide variety of issues, all monthly meetings feature a representative of the administration (usually the superintendent) who provides a district update and participates in a Q&A with parents. Meetings also include a monthly update from the MSDWT School Board. Parents are welcome to attend!

The next meeting will be January 16, 2013 from 7-9pm at the CEC. Parent Council is also seeking input for next year meetings. If there is a topic you would like Parent Council to address, please submit your idea to parentcouncilemail@yahoo.com. It is important for parents to get connected, stay informed and take action when needed. For more information, please go to www.msdwtparentcouncil.org.

Parents are strongly urged to educate themselves on these issues and more. To learn more, please go to ICPE website: www.icpe2011.org.

If you would like more information on Parent Council, please visit MSDWT Parent Council's website at www.msdwtparentcouncil.org. You can also find us on Facebook under the group: "MSD Washington Township Parent Council."

Family Math Game Night

WHO: All Allisonville Families

What: Math Games for everyone!

When: Thursday, January 17th, 6:30-7:30pm

Where: Allisonville Cafeteria



January Events

- 7 PTO Executive Board mtg 11am

- 11 Dad's Club Movie Night, 6pm

Admission free; dinner \$3.

- 15-18- Everybody Counts
- 21- No School
- 25- Limited Choice applications due
- 25- Chinese Festival & Teacher Performance- 6:00-8:30pm



EASTWOOD PTO is

looking for PTO Co-Presidents for next school year!!

Please contact Jennifer Overett at jenniferoverett@mac.com if interested or would like more detailed information.



Attention all dancers

Allisonville Dance clinic is back!!

Please watch for flyers to come home in January.
Dance clinic will be held on Tuesdays after school for 6 weeks.

Cost is \$58

For more information please call Heidi Gessner 590-0290



Thanks so much



Lara Boulton & Jennifer Stonebraker would like to send a huge thank you to our incredible holiday luncheon volunteers: Mary Beth Baker, Julie Breedlove, Jill Buckner, Caroline Dennis, Lyn Fencil, Carroll Hannon, Sheila Henry, Jodi Isenberg, Christy Jacobi, Emily Kaiser, Rebecca Lansberry, Sallie Latty, Monica Leffler, Sarah Manion, Carolyn Nichols, Tracey Patterson, Barbara Ressino, Marci Robinson, Anne Scott, Jenny Strabala, Mrs. Gessner and all her 5th grade Ambassadors. Thanks also to those wonderful staff members, including Mr. Pomerence, Mr. Stolt, Mr. Walker, Mrs. Bower, and *especially* Mrs. Robinson and her cafeteria staff, as well as Mr. Birdsong and his staff.

Happy
birthday
Mrs. Brown!



5th graders performance of Aladdin was a huge success!



Gong Xi Fa Cai! (Happy New Year!)
Allisonville's Annual Fundraiser
Friday, January 25th 6-8:30 pm!



Admission \$3.50 per person and tickets will be sold for 50cents each to be used for all games, food and activities!

Pei Wei Chinese plate for 8 tickets (\$4 includes egg roll and rice or lo mein noodles), single egg roll 3 tickets, bowl rice/noodles 6 tickets, pizza 3 tickets, drinks 2 and chips 1!
Dad's Club selling pop, candy and popcorn for tickets too!

Dance! Bid on beautiful silent auction theme baskets!

Enter for your chance to take home a REAL LIVE SNAKE!

Launch a Chinese Lantern (\$5) with your family to end the night!

Cheer performances of Allisonville teachers and Martial Arts Group!

Dress for the occasion and visit photo booth to get your photo keepsake and authentic Chinese writing by Mr. Tsai! (2 tickets each)

Volunteers still needed. Contact Tracey 538-5098 or Jodi 627-2740

Top 10 Ways to Volunteer for Everybody Counts

- **Everybody Counts is January 14-18**
 - For information, contact Shannon Farrell at srfarrell@comcast.net, 446-5507 or Jean Arnold at jarnold7@mac.com or 849-7801.
10. Talk to *Jean* Arnold when you see her.
 9. Talk to *Shannon* Farrell when you see her.
 8. Call Jean Arnold at 414-3670.
 7. Call Jean Arnold at 849-7801.
 6. e-mail Jean Arnold at jarnold7@mac.com.
 5. Call Shannon Farrell at 466-5507.
 4. Call Shannon Farrell at 577-8329.
 3. e-mail Shannon Farrell at srfarrell@comcast.net.
 2. Stop by the school front desk, pick up a form, fill it out and return it there.
 1. And the #1 way to volunteer for Everybody Counts is.....



Return the form that was sent home in December.