



A weekly publication of the Lake Harriet Community School PTA

June 7, 2011

From the Principals' Desks:

Dear Families,

June and the end of school seems to have arrived too quickly this year. The end of the school year mad rush of testing, field days, final reports, poetry readings and projects move aside for the excitement of grade level picnics and final report cards. We watch another class of Lake Harriet students head off to high school and we begin to plan for next fall and the incoming groups of students. Summer has finally arrived.

Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered throughout the year at both campuses. Your gift of time to the school is priceless. We could not offer the quality of instruction we do without your continual help. Thank you to all the families who have donated reams of copy paper this spring. Both the classroom teachers and office staff appreciate your support. Thank you to the Board members of the PTA and the Site Council members for your leadership and work to keep our ship afloat and on course. Thank you to the STEM subcommittee for your work in developing and adopting our new mission statement. Thank you to the CSO subcommittee for your work to make the LHCS experience successful for our partnership families. Thank you to the Diversity Committee for your cooperative work with the Student Council in our "Homes for Haiti." Lake Harriet Community School's greatest asset is our balanced collaboration of families, community and staff. Together we have accomplished some great things this year.

We regretfully bid good bye to Tarneka Harrison and her family as they move to Illinois. Tarneka has been an integral part of our CSO partnership program with our north side families. She has done an excellent job as the family liaison for the program. For years Tarneka has taught community education classes to our kids after school and she will be greatly missed. We wish her and her children all the best.

Many teams of teachers and administrators have been completing rounds of interviews. The middle grades will be adding Mr. Gabriel Thompson in the math department, Mr. John Wood in social studies and Mr. Matthew Streit in language arts. Upper campus is adding Ms. Sharon Swanby as the new media teacher. Both campuses will share our new special education resource teacher, Leah Swanson, and our new LPN, Kathy Presnall. The lower campus art and music teachers and a middle grades WINGS teacher are still in process. We will announce these new staff members in August.

As this year comes to a conclusion I would like to acknowledge Chris Hall and Paula McClom, our two school secretaries. They do mountains of work, buzz people into the buildings, answer the phones and help everyone who enters the offices. Somehow, through all this, they keep their sense of humor and enjoy the children.

Be sure your children take home their lost and found items. Things will be donated by Friday of this last week. Thank you for sharing your children with us and we look forward to serving you again next year.

Mary Rynchek
Principal

From the lunchroom manager:

Dear parent/guardians of Lake Harriet Upper campus:

I am writing to ask that all outstanding breakfast and lunch bills be paid in full this spring prior to the end of the school year.

Send all moneys to the lunchroom.

Note: if bills are not paid they will follow your student to the next Minneapolis Public school that they attend.

Sincerely,
Pat Nagle, Lunchroom Manager

LHCS Reaches Goal of Raising Money for Eight Homes in Haiti!

We are pleased to announce that our school's goal to raise \$8000 to build 8 homes in Haiti has been achieved! The funds were presented to the American Refugee Committee (ARC) on Monday, June 6. The money was raised through multiple efforts. The first event was a school wide coin drive, where students brought coins to school on the anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti. Through a service learning activity, K-2 students drew images that were transferred to fabric and sewn into a quilt by a LHCS parent who is a tapestry artist. The quilt was photographed and that image was used to create postcards which were sold to parents and community members. The tapestry will be delivered by ARC staff to school children in Port au Prince, Haiti. Student council members sold snacks at dances and school events and also gathered donations at the LHCS carnival. Lastly, LHCS students participated in Sleep Out for Shelter, where they gave up their shelter for one night, slept in tents, and got donations and pledges for doing so on a rainy night in May 20. It truly took a village to raise these funds and we are so proud of our students, teachers, and parents who contributed to making this a meaningful and enriching experience. Way to go!

Parents: Raise a Reader This Summer!

Do your families need a summer reading resource? The PBS Summer Reading Community Challenge provides six weeks of daily reading tips beginning June 6.

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/read/>

Thanks to Local Businesses and Organizations!

The Diversity Committee would like to shout out a big thank you to the following businesses and organizations for contributing prizes for activities related to the Sleep Out for Shelter :

Midwest Mountaineering, Hoigaards, Inc. Columbia Clothing in Uptown, North Face in Uptown, Dairy Queen, Zumbro's Café, Sebastian Joes, Famous Daves, Great Harvest Bakery, City of Lakes Nordic Ski Foundation.

We would also like to thank the Fulton Farmer's market allowing students to set up a stand to sell postcards and collect money for the homes in Haiti. Most of all, thanks to all the students and parents who participated in the Sleep Out for Shelter and collected donations to go toward building homes for Haitian families!

Lake Harriet Heroes

Congratulations to the May Lake Harriet Heroes at Upper Campus! These students were chosen because they are respectful, responsible, safe, and ready to learn everyday they come to school.

Grades 3-5: Sean M, Gavin D, Ellie S, Mohamed J, Cole P, Sevrin W, Ikenna U, Jane C, Claire W, Alice H, Will O, Sanjay S, Rachel S.

Grades 6-8: Zeinab A, Will R, Carl J, William B, Kayla B, Claire M, George M, Madeline R, August P, Seth C
Correction from April: Sally Y.

Also, a BIG thank you to KOWALSKI'S on Lyndale for donating some of the food for the spring Hero Recognition Breakfast!

LHCS Students Win 6th Place at Destination ImagiNation Global Finals Competition

Five Lake Harriet Community School 8th grade students participating in a Destination Imagination (DI) team were awarded 6th place on May 28 at the Global Finals Competition held at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville by the Destination ImagiNation non-profit organization. A total of 82 teams competed in the middle school category of the "fine arts" challenge in which the LHCS team took part.

Team members include Seth C-P, Hannah F, Nathaniel L, Piper S-A and Becca T--all 8th graders from LHCS--and Kaj A-M, a former LHCS student. This DI team has been together since 4th grade when their team formed at LHCS. The team was thrilled to win 1st place at the MN State DI Tournament on April 16, giving them the opportunity to compete at the global competition.

This year the Destination ImagiNation program involved more than 100,000 elementary, junior high and high school students from throughout the U.S. and 30 countries who competed for the opportunity to compete for world honors in Global Finals May 25-28 in Knoxville, TN. The global competition in 2011 included 8,000 students participating on 1,156 teams.

Anne Bancroft Foundation Grant

Ali D, 6th grader, was recently awarded a "Dare to Dream" micro grant from the Anne Bancroft Foundation. Ali will use the award to attend a summer creative writing workshop at The Loft Literary Center, and pursue her dream of becoming an author. For more information, see

<http://www.annbancroftfoundation.org/>

Attention LHCS Twins Fans!

Because our April 22nd LHCS Twins night was rained out, the tickets are now good for a makeup game on **Monday, July 18th at 12:10 pm**. Most participants appear to be able to plan ahead to use these tickets, but I do have a few people who would like to sell their tickets. If you are interested in purchasing any tickets for this game, let me know immediately, and I will do my best to match up buyers and sellers.

Email me at tom-maureen-berg@comcast.net or call me at [612-920-0236](tel:612-920-0236).

Thanks, and go Twins!

Maureen Kane Berg

Volunteer Opportunity

Co-leader needed for Junior Great Books for 20011/2012 school year. Parent will assist in coordination of program by helping with distributing information, collecting forms, coordinating groups & classrooms, ordering books, etc.

For more information please contact Joanne Kaufman at [612-920-3370](tel:612-920-3370) or jmktjm@hotmail.com.

Reams of Paper Needed

The Upper Campus Office is accepting donations until the end of the school year of reams of white, copy paper for school use. Any donations would be appreciated by both staff and teachers.

Mandarin Club 2011-2012

Our 2010-2011 Mandarin Club has ended successfully and the children learned a lot in this year! I am pleased to announce that Sleepy Tigers is going to offer the Mandarin Club at Lake Harriet Lower Campus and Upper Campus in the school year of 2011-2012.

Please join us for the fun learning experience. Mandarin Club is a Chinese Language & Culture program offered in public/private schools for K-8 students. The main focus is Chinese Mandarin verbal skills, reading, writing. Students will also be introduced to Chinese culture, art, history and geography. There are other resources including field trips, online resources, online practices.

Schedule for next year: 9/26/2011--5/17/2012

Lower Campus-Monday & Wednesday, 4:00-5:00pm Upper Campus-Tuesday & Thursday, 4:15-5:15pm

The schedule will follow the Lake Harriet holiday/release days.

Tuition: Tuition is \$508 per student, \$468 for each additional sibling. Material fees are approximately \$20-\$40 and are due with the 1st installment.

*Scholarship is available, for details please contact Sleepy Tigers.

For more information, please visit <http://www.sleepytigers.com/Programs/MandarinClub.aspx>

Tickets on Sale Now for Parties Galore Fundraisers



These parties are available online now for purchase, go to <http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/> and click on the yellow Parties Galore Button.

We haven't met our fundraising goal for the year, so by attending these parties you are supporting our school all while having a great time! Hurry, parties will fill up fast. Keep your eyes on the website for more parties that are in the works.

Saturday, June 11th - **All School Fiesta**

Tuesday, June 14th -- **LHCS Night out at the Twins Game**

2010 - 11 Connection Contacts:

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Published every Tuesday. Deadline for submission is 4pm the preceding Thursday.

Submissions: email to anna1028@gmail.com or use the online submission form at <http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/connection1.html>. Please try to limit each submission to approximately 150 words in length.