



A weekly publication of the Lake Harriet Community School PTA

October 26, 2010

From the Principals' Desks

Dear Families:

On Monday, October 20, the Lake Harriet Upper Campus instituted a Code Yellow Lockdown. This meant that the exterior access to the building was secured and anyone wanting to enter was screened before access was granted. It also meant that the students were not allowed outdoors until the lockdown ended. A Code Yellow Lockdown is put into place when a possible or actual threat is outside of the school building. During a Code Yellow Lockdown school continues. We had information about a situation that might have posed a threat. We take safety very seriously and called the Code Yellow Lockdown as a precaution. I am not at liberty to discuss details with you because this involves a police investigation. Your children were not in danger and this was a precautionary action. Throughout the afternoon we worked with the Minneapolis Public Schools Safety and Security Department and they worked with the Minneapolis Police. When the situation was resolved a Code Green-All Clear released the lockdown shortly before the end of the school day.

Each year, we remind parents that we will hold five Code Yellow Lockdown drills and five Code Red Lockdown drills and one Tornado drill as part of our School Emergency Training plan. A Code Red Lockdown would be a situation that the threat is inside the school building. In a Code Red Lockdown all exterior and interior doors are locked, no one is allowed access into or out of the classrooms and workspaces or allowed access into the building. School is interrupted while students and teachers move to an area in the classrooms away from the doorway or windows. Window shades are pulled and everyone is silent. An actual Code Red Lockdown involves support from various community agencies.

The upper campus students did a fine job during the Code Yellow Lockdown. We will count this toward one of our five drills. We have been practicing these types of drills for a number of years now and the children have become accustomed to the routine and expectations. It is always my intent not to stress the students unduly and to approach situations with a calm and positive manner.

Mary Rynchek
Principal

Dear families of 8th graders,

It is the time of the year to begin thinking about what high school your 8th grader will attend next year. The district has created an opportunity for 8th graders to learn more about the Minneapolis Public School programs. There are tours scheduled during the day on November 8th at both Washburn and Southwest High Schools. These tours will allow your 8th grader to experience high schools first hand. Please note that each student that participates must have a signed permission slip in prior to the scheduled tour. The 8th graders who participate will be provided with lunch however they will need their lunch pin #. Please note that these tours will replace the past practice of shadowing.

In addition we will need volunteer parents to chaperone the students. There is a student – chaperone ratio of 10:1 which means if all of our 8th graders attend a tour we will need 10 chaperones. If you are available please phone me directly at 668-3314 and or indicate it on your child's permission slip.

Please find the tour schedules below and be sure to also submit the permission slip (available on the

Connection website or from the school office). Please note that the permission slips will also be sent home with all 8th graders the week of October 25th and must be returned no later than November 1st to their advisory teacher.

Sincerely,
Merry Tilleson, A.P. LHCS

Schedule for Group 2 (late start schools) Lake Harriet (97)

10:00AM Buses arrive at 8

th grade site for pick-up

10:30AM Arrive at Southwest

10:30AM – 12:00PM H.S. presentation & tours

12:00PM – 12:30PM Lunch @ Southwest

12:30PM Leave Southwest

1:00PM Arrive at Washburn

1:00PM – 2:30PM H.S. presentation & tours

2:30PM Leave Washburn – returning to 8th grade site

Kids Voting Minneapolis needs your help!

Kids Voting Minneapolis needs volunteers to conduct the 'Kids Voting Program' at precinct polling places on Election Day, Tuesday, November 2, 2010. Volunteers will work a two-hour shift (3-5 p.m. or 5-7 p.m.) and will also need to attend a one-hour training session. This is a great way to experience the excitement of kids as they learn about and have an opportunity to vote in Kids Voting Minneapolis. Kids Voting Minneapolis is a community-based nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization working in cooperation with the Minneapolis Public Schools to prepare 50,000 Minneapolis young people to be educated, informed voters. Kids Voting Minneapolis is empowering students with the skills and confidence to embrace civic involvement. Please contact Allison Stevens, allisonstevens@comcast.net, if you are interested in this opportunity.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming! Don't miss this annual fundraising event held in the atrium at the upper campus. The fair will be held during conferences on **Thursday, November 4th from 8:30am-8:00pm and Friday, November 5th from 8:30am-12noon**. There will be something for everyone in the family! 100% of the profits go to the UC and LC media centers!

Dragons Volleyball in Playoffs!

The Lady Dragon volleyball team finished the second half of their season with a perfect 6-0 record, including a close win over our rival, Anthony, on Monday. Thanks to all the fans that turned out to cheer on the team! The Dragons' 11-1 record has earned them the #1 seed in the playoffs this week. Lake Harriet will be hosting a playoff game on Thursday, October 28, at 5 pm in the Upper Campus gym. Come out and cheer on the Dragons to victory!

A Reminder from the Health Office

Due to legal and policy regulations, annual doctor's orders are required every school year for ANY medication to be administered from the Health Office. We have recently had requests to give asthma inhalers before gym and we cannot do this unless we have orders. The turn-around time for getting a faxed order back from a physician, PA or CNP is usually one or two days. It is rare to get a faxed order back on the day it was requested.

Students in 7th grade or above can self-carry over the counter medications such as Tylenol or Motrin if their parents sign a 'Self-Administration Authorization' form and it is on file in the Health Office. Please refer to Lake Harriet's Health Services website for more information.

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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.