



A weekly publication of the Lake Harriet Community School PTA

September 27, 2011

From the Principals' Desks:

MCA Test results from last spring are coming!

There was a planned delay in results due to the new version of the math MCA (MCA-111 online). Then, things got delayed even further because of the state shutdown.

No later than October 14th student reports will arrive in district and shortly after that time they will be sent home.

We know that it is a long wait for everybody, but this is our reality. In the meantime, MAP is coming up and you'll have those results available for conferences.

MAP Testing began at the UC on September 19th

The Upper Campfall MAP testing will take place over 3 weeks (September 19 – October 7). All 3rd – 5th graders will be tested during their Media specialist time, once for reading and once for math. All 6th – 8th graders will be tested during their math or reading core class, math during math and reading during language arts.

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing provide teachers and students with concrete data which they then use to set goals for the school year. The MAP is a set of computerized tests in reading and math. Students in grades 2 – 8 take the MAP at least twice during the year to compare the actual student's growth. The computerized system adjusts the difficulty level of questions based on the student's pattern of correct/incorrect answers. In addition to measuring growth the Map also informs teachers about specific areas of strength or weaknesses in reading and math of their students.

UC Test Coordinators: Merry Tilleson, A.P. & Sherry Mather, EA

LC Test Coordinator: Jan Parrish, POSA

Minnesota School of Excellence

Dear Lake Harriet Community School Family,

We are asking you, members of our school community, to help our school achieve Minnesota School of Excellence validation. All you need to do is **complete a self- study**. Staff at both campuses and parents on the LHCS site council have already completed the study. Now, we need your responses in order to move on to the planning part of this program.

The study assesses the strengths of our school in terms of six standards for effective elementary and middle level schools, as determined by the Minnesota Elementary School Principal Association. It asks you to rate a series of indicators - please feel comfortable with responding NA to any of the questions.

The study must be filled out by hand, and returned to school by October 14, 2011 – You can pick up a copy in the offices at both campuses, or may download a pdf and turn it in ([link](#))

About the Minnesota School of Excellence validation:

During the 2011-12 school year, LHCS will be undergoing a process of school improvement guided by the Minnesota School of Excellence program. This is a program that promotes excellence through a rigorous evaluation process that showcases dynamic schools of the 21st century. To be validated as a Minnesota School of Excellence, LHCS principal, staff, students, and community –working as a team – must go through a process of self-study, then develop and implement a school improvement plan.

Remember Excellence is a process!

Sincerely,
Merry Tilleson, A.P. LHCS

From the School Nurse

The Minnesota visiting Nurse Association (MVNA), in conjunction with a grant from Kohl's Department Stores, will be conducting a flu shot clinic on October 11th from 4-8 pm at Upper Campus in the staff lounge. Staff can get their shot right after school and families can come in until 8 pm at night. Insurance covers the cost of the shot. Children 6 months and up will be vaccinated for free.

Some funding may be available to help pay for uninsured adults. Please bring your health insurance card if you have one. The mist will be available. We need some volunteers to assist the MVNA with the clinic.

Please contact Kathy Frey: kathy.frey@mpls.k12.mn.us if you could help with this year's clinic. We need about 6 volunteers.

Thank you,
Kathy Frey, RN, Licensed School Nurse

Parent Information Meeting: Changes in Gifted Services

Parents are welcome to attend an information meeting about the new vision for Gifted Services that the District is now implementing. It will be on Tuesday, October 11th from 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. in the Media Center at the Upper Campus.

Kim Kirk Talent Development & Gifted Services

Last day for the Innisbrook Fundraiser!

Today, Tuesday, September 27 is the last day of the Innisbrook fundraiser. Please make sure to enter your orders on-line at www.innisbrook.com. Print out the order voucher and send it in to school with the money for your order.

Our annual wrapping paper and gift sale has traditionally been our school's largest fundraiser of the year. Last year students sold more than \$60,000 of product generating almost \$30,000 in funds for student and teacher enrichment programs. Our goal this year is \$65,000 in sales!

Innisbrooke strives to be the greenest fundraiser wrapping paper company around. Their quality is top notch and prices are highly competitive. Please support LHCS through Innisbrook sales when you replenish your wrapping paper stash, purchase client gifts, or need holiday candy!

Products can be ordered in two ways:

1. "Door to door" catalog orders taken using the catalogs and order forms that will be sent home with your youngest or only student for the entire family to use. Extra catalogs and order forms are available in each of the school offices. Sales information from each student's order form should be entered into the EZ ordering system at www.innisbrook.com. You must register your student(s) for receive a sales number and enter the order(s). Instructions are included in the sales packet. Order vouchers printed from your PC and total amount due should be returned to each school office by Tuesday, September 27th, in the manila envelope provided in the sales packet. Keep your hand-written customer order form for delivery information. You will need this information after your order is picked up! All orders taken and entered in

this way must be picked up at the Upper Campus gym in early November.

2. Online orders are paid for using a credit card and shipped directly to the buyer. You must register your student(s) at www.innisbrook.com and click on REGISTER SELLERS. Our school number is 109366. This is the only way our school will receive credit for the sale and your child will receive prize credits if ordered during the sale dates. This process will also allow you to send out emails to family and friends. Online orders of \$85.00 or more receive free shipping! After the sales dates, online sales continue to be open and our school will continue to receive credit but your student(s) will not receive any further prize credits. We appreciate your support of LHCS!! Thank you for making this a successful fundraiser!!

Questions? Contact Lori Bakken, Innisbrook Fundraiser Coordinator, at Loribakken@comcast.net or (612) 812-0868.

Lake Harriet Volunteer Policies

If you would like to volunteer at Lake Harriet, you must fill out the Volunteer Form and return to either campus office.

If you think you will ever go on a field trip, tutor or help out in a way where you might be with a student without supervision of a teacher, you also need to fill out and mail in the Criminal Background Check form.

Good News - Policy Update: These forms will be kept on file for nine years - from kindergarten through eighth grade for your first child. We still have the forms from last year, so if you filled out these forms last year, you do not have to fill them out again. However, if you move, change your name, or are still volunteering 9 years after submission, both forms will need to be resubmitted.

FAQ Website Section Expanded

There is a FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section on the Lake Harriet Community School website and it has recently been expanded.

The [FAQ section](#) is under "About Our School" and here are now two subsections (found in the right sidebar) that address "[Testing and Assessment](#)" (for those of you who want to make sense of the testing "alphabet soup"), and "[Extracurricular and Enrichment](#)" (that provides an overview of some of the school sponsored before and after school programs).

Community News

Fall Sports classes are starting soon at Linden Hills, McRae, Pearl, and Pershing Parks. This October and November Revolutionary Sports will offer skills classes in flag football, Floor Hockey, and soccer for ages 3 - 11. Sport offering and age group offering varies by location. Revolutionary Sports offers quality, affordable, age-appropriate classes with experienced, trained instructors for many Minneapolis Park Board Programs.

For more information check out www.RevSports.org, or search for RevSports on the MinneapolisParks.org website.

2011-2012 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.