

THE VALENTINE VIEW

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Our Great School ♥ Our Great Community

May 22, 2009



Valentine Hills Elementary School
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SCHOOL CALENDAR...

Mon May 25

MEMORIAL DAY—NO SCHOOL

Tue May 26

Food Shelf Drive includes TODAY!

Wed May 27

2:00 4 & 5 track meet at TLES

FRI MAY 29 -*Dress Like Mr. J Day*

Mon Jun 1

11:30-2:30 Mrs. Keillor's class to FMSC

12:20-2:20 5TH gr Celebration

2:30 Police K-9 demonstration for 5th graders

7:00 PTA meeting, rm 125

Tue Jun 2

9:45-11:30 4th & 5th gr orchestra students trip
to Presbyterian Homes for concert

12:30 - ? 5th gr track meet at IDHS

Thu Jun 4

9:45-3:30 5th to Science Museum

3:45 5th gr track leaves for meet at ILES

Fri Jun 5

9:30-11:30 AM K to Springbrook

1:30-3:30 PM K & K+ to Springbrook

9:45 Awards Ceremony, gyms

10:45-3:15 2nd gr to Como Zoo

1:40-3:40 4th gr kick ball tournament

Mon Jun 8

10:50-2:00 3rd gr to Tony Schmidt Park

Tue Jun 9

Last 2008-2009 school day

Parents:

✓ On June 9, your student should come home with his/her final report card for the year.

✓ If your student has any medications in the Health Office, you should pick them up on June 9 and/or make specific arrangements with Diane Cable at 651-621-7804.

✓ Please monitor your student's lunch account to be sure there is money available. Call 651-621-7809 with questions.

Wed Sep 2

Time TBA Kdgn Meet Your Teacher

Thu Sep 3

Time TBA Gr 1-5 Meet Your Teacher

Tue Sep 8

First school day for 2009 - 2010

PRINCIPAL POINTS — SURVEY RESULTS

Nathan Flansburg, VHES Principal

Earlier this spring parents were asked to participate in a school-wide survey that focused on community here at Valentine Hills. We have compiled the results in which 56 families responded to the school survey, and would like to share them with you.

Question 1: Which of the following activities have you participated in at Valentine Hills?

- Kindergarten Round Up – 25%
- Meet your Teacher Night – 89%
- Parent Information Night – 84%
- School Book Fairs – 69%
- PTA Meetings – 32%
- Holiday Sing-a-Long – 86%
- School Carnival – 77%
- Minnesota Twins Family Group Night – 52%
- Classroom Activities/Field Trips – 66%
- ESL Open House – 2%
- Title 1 Open House – 5%
- Band/Orchestra Concerts – 32%

Many families also noted they have volunteered or participated in: Helping in the LMC, Parent/Teacher Conferences, Science Fair, Track and Field Day, Fundraisers, Laurentian Environmental Center and other community education and district events.

When asked how sufficient have these activities been in providing opportunities to connect with other families, 75% of families responded that they have been very or somewhat sufficient. 18% of families replied they were neither sufficient or insufficient.

When asked to rate the sense of community you feel with staff, other families as well as the sense of community your child feels with other students, the results showed that 75% of families felt either a strong sense or some sense of community with staff members. 71% replied they felt a strong sense or some sense of community with other families, while 90% replied they felt their child has a strong sense or some sense of community with other students.

Families also provided many additional ideas for future activities to bring families together, including: Minnesota Wild hockey game nights, meet your teacher grill out night, more athletic events, more

parenting classes, parent coffee times, family nights by grade, school picnic, and bring back movie night, to name just a few.

So what does this information tell us? As a building we are excited to know that many of you are happy with the opportunities to get connected with staff and other families. At the same time, we also realize there is room for improvement. We are currently in the planning process to combine our meet your teacher night with our parent information night. This will take place on Thursday, September 3 where our PTA will also be providing a time for families to gather together for a grill out. More information will be available in the next Valentine View about this change. We appreciate everyone who took the time to respond and look forward to continuing to improve our school community and events that we are able to offer our families.

RALPH REEDER FOOD SHELF DRIVE — MAY 18 - 26

SPONSORED BY STUDENT COUNCIL

Our final food shelf drive was held this week and is being held over through Tuesday, May 26. If you can help with anything — canned goods, personal items or household items and paper products — there will be area neighbors who will greatly appreciate your generosity. There is a table in the lobby where you can bring your donations or you can send them with your student.

PRINCIPAL SEARCH BEGINS AT HIGHVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

Highview Middle School principal Dr. Mona Fadness has accepted a transfer from Highview at the end of this year to replace Sheila Eller as principal at Chippewa Middle School in North Oaks. Eller decided to move back to her family in Virginia and will be leaving the Chippewa community at the end of this school year.

“It’s evident that Mona cares very much about Highview, its staff and its students, and she leaves Highview in an excellent position for the next principal to continue her legacy of solid leadership,” said Superintendent Dan Hoverman.

The Highview principal position vacancy is posted and will run through Friday, May 29. Interviews with selected candidates will be targeted to take place the first week in June. The new principal is expected to be named by the week of June 15 with a start date of July 1, 2009.

For more information, please visit www.moundviewschools.org.

LOST AND FOUND

We will have Lost and Found displayed in the front lobby beginning Thursday, May 28 and through the last day of school, Tuesday, June 8. We encourage families to check the tables for items your student may have lost at school. All items remaining after June 8 will be sorted and appropriate items will be washed and donated to charity.



TRACK AND FIELD DAY

FRIDAY, MAY 29

On Friday, May 29 we will have our annual Track and Field Day. Students in grades one-five will be able to participate in fun events with all of the students in their grade level.

Parents may come and watch their child(ren) try activities such as the shoe kick, run an obstacle course, jump over the hurdles, and many more.

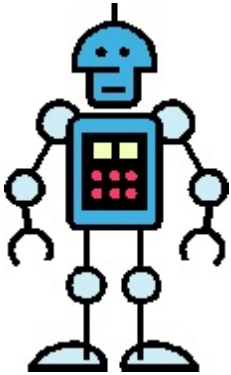
If it rains that morning, the students will go through their normal day and when it is time for Specialists, they will be able to do silly events in the gym and art room.

These are the times the grade levels will be participating in the Track and Field Day:

9:40-10:20	Grades two and three
10:25-10:55	Grade one
11:00-11:45	Grades four and five



LOOKING FOR LEGO LEAGUE COACHES



We are looking for parents of next year's fourth and fifth graders who may be interested in **COACHING** a Lego League team. Teams cannot be formed unless there is a coach. This program needs to start immediately in the fall, if not sooner, so coaches need to sign up now.

If you are interested in coaching or have questions about coaching, please contact Dave or May Lawrence at 651-636-4978 after 4:30 p.m. ***Please do not call about registration.***

BelAir and Valentine Hills fourth and fifth grade orchestras will have an end of the year performance at the Presbyterian Nursing Home, 3220 Lake Johanna Blvd., Arden Hills, on Tuesday, June 2. We will meet in the school lobby to load the bus at 9:45 a.m. Our concert is at 10:30 a.m. in the atrium area in the building closest to the driveway entrance. I will need six chaperones. Let me know if you would be available. We will greet residents and leave at about 11:15-11:30. A green permission form was sent home this week. A donation of \$2 is needed to cover the cost of the bus and for an ice cream party during recess. The date of the party is listed on the permission slip. There will be no large group or small group lessons after June 2.

Green practice calendars are due May 22. Be sure they are filled in completely and signed by a parent.



Ms. Juli Vig
Orchestra Director 651-621-6379