

Paws for News

Creek Valley Elementary School
6401 Gleason Road, Edina, MN 55439

Creek Valley School News ...

April 7, 2010

Dr. Dahlquist's Desktop

Character education is an essential element of building a well rounded individual. According to Wikipedia, "Character education is an umbrella term loosely used to describe the teaching of children in a manner that will help them develop variously as moral, civic, good, mannered, behaved, non-bullying, healthy, critical, successful, traditional, compliant and/or socially-acceptable beings." Some schools have formal character education programs that are purchased and that permeate the building's culture. At Creek Valley, we promote respectful behavior in a variety of ways.

- Our school rule, ***I will act in a safe and respectful way***, is posted in every classroom and referenced often.
- Our district's **ICCCAR values** (integrity, courage, compassion, commitment, appreciation of diversity, and responsibility) are similarly highlighted frequently. Our Pride Day assemblies feature one of these values each month. Bobcats are awarded to students when they're caught doing something good and a representative from each classroom is drawn from classroom Bobcat buckets at Pride Day. One of the best parts of my job is reading a story to students (two classes at a time) as a follow up to Pride Day; ones that exemplify one or more of the ICCCAR values.
- Creek Valley's school motto is **GO MAD: Go out and make a difference**. Students wear GO MAD t-shirts on Pride Day. Each assembly ends with the question, "(And now Creek Valley) what will you do?" to which students reply, "Go out and make a difference!"
- The **STOP sign** is a tool students use to solve conflicts with each other. It is directly taught to every class in the fall each year. STOP signs are posted in classrooms and next to exterior recess doors serving as designated places to work through conflict.
 - S – say your feelings
 - T – tell what you want
 - O – own up to your part
 - P – peaceful partners
- **Fix-it Slips** are a communication tool we use to inform parents of a conflict at school. The intent of these forms is to help children process the effects of their actions. Questions to be answered include:
 - Who did I hurt by my behavior?
 - How do I feel about what happened?
 - How will I fix this (or make things better)?
 - What will I do differently next time?

When asked how they could make a difference at school, some of Creek Valley students' responses included:

- Say 'Hello' to others by name.
- Include people in recess games.
- Stand up for others.
- Help others without being asked.
- Do the right thing even though no one will give you a "prize".
- Use polite words, e.g., please and thank you.
- Realize that words are important.
- Don't save seats at lunch.
- Don't follow trends, be yourself.
- Thank your bus driver.
- Stand up for what you think is right.
- Meet new people and invite them to join in.

Finally, our specialists have been busy reinforcing a word of the week. Examples include responsibility, self-control, integrity, personal best, active listening, no put-downs, truthfulness, trustworthiness, and respect. Students will hear the word for the week every day in a different specialty area: art, music, physical education, media, and library.

The bottom line is that building well rounded, ethical humans is a task not to be underestimated. In addition to teaching reading and math, educators and parents must work together to accomplish this noble goal. During my recent read alouds and face time with students, I told them, when talking about Creek Valley kids, how highly I speak of them! Lucky me to work with such a respectful student body!

Attendance 952-848-3202

Office 952-848-3200

<http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/creekvalley/>
PTA Website: www.creekvalleypta.org

The next Paws for News publication deadline is Friday, April 9th for the Wednesday, April 14th edition.

Creek Valley School News continued ...

School store will be open Friday, April 9th!

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 8 PTA Executive Board Meeting
April 13-14 MCAs reading, grades 3-5
April 15 Pride Day—responsibility 1:45pm
April 16 Carnival 5:30-8pm
April 20-21 MCAs math, grades 3-5
April 23 4th grade float parade and concert, 2:30pm
April 26-May3 MCAs science, grade 5
May 1 Spring grounds cleanup 9am-noon
May 3-7 Food drive



CARNIVAL IS COMING ... April 16th!

Just a reminder that the Carnival Information Packet is online this year and is available to view/print right now on the CV PTA Website. This packet will give you all the information you will need to know about Carnival this year! By now you should have received your Ticket Order Form where you can purchase your Game/Food Punchcards, Raffle/Basket tickets, and Fun-draiser tickets (Baseball Bonanza & Mama Noches parties). Forms are due April 15th!

**** Hardcopies of the Carnival Booklet are available in the office ****

The Carnival committee is asking for donations of gently used books, CD's and DVD's for the media walk on the night of Carnival. A drop box is conveniently located by the front office.

Middle school or high school kids are still needed to help in the beauty shop for either shift (5:15 – 6:45 or 6:30 – 8:00) If you have an older child that is willing to help, please have them contact Andrea Brandt abrandt@enclarity.com or (952) 200-2093.

In other Carnival news, Raffles will be closed at 7:00pm on the night of Carnival so orders may be processed. Please keep that in mind to ensure you are able to participate in raffles.



Gifted Identification/Math Meeting

Interested in learning more about the gifted identification process or math options for students entering 6th Grade? Sue Nelson will do a presentation at:

CREEK VALLEY on Tuesday, April 20 in the Media Center

(6:30 – 7:15 Identification and 7:30 – 8:15 Math Options for 5th Graders)

Or

NORMANDALE on Thursday, April 22, in Room 351

(6:30 – 7:15 Identification and 7:30 – 8:15 Math Options for 5th Graders)

Edina School District News ...

**Edina Public Schools to discuss 2010-11 budget
at community meeting April 8 at 7 p.m.
in the Edina Community Center auditorium.**

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss planning efforts and budget challenges facing the 2010-11 school year. Superintendent Dressen has put together some background information about the budget planning for school year 2010-11 including a short overview video. It is located on the district website. Here is the link: <http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/news/mediareleases/2009-2010/superintendent%20update.html>



**FREE FORUM: PCN presents: “Strengthening your Parenting Team”
Steven Kahn, PhD**

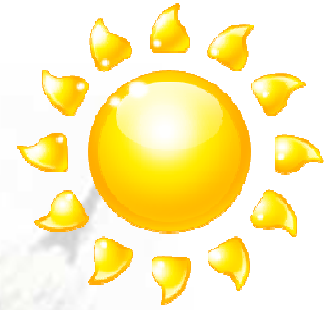
Monday, April 12th 7-9pm, Highlands elementary school

****Make it a date night! All attendees receive a \$5 off certificate for Eden Avenue Grill!****

More information: edinapcn.com

Community News ...

SUMMER FUN AVAILABLE TO ALL AT EDINA KIDS CLUB, WISE GUYS, AND SURGE!



Edina Public School's KIDS Club, WISE Guys and Surge programs are currently accepting registrations for summer 2010! KIDS Club (for those entering grades 1-3) is based right here at Creek Valley Elementary School. Wise Guys (for those entering grades 4-5) and SURGE (for those entering grades 6-9) are located at the Edina Community Center. Our simple and flexible online registration process allows you to choose whatever days you need throughout the summer.

During our summer programs, we offer field trips nearly every day to fun places such as the Edina Pool, local parks, libraries, nature centers, museums, and more. On-site activities include sports, art and craft projects, cooking, science experiments, creative/dramatic play, community service projects etc. In addition to all the fun activities, KIDS Club, Wise Guys, and Surge offer your child a wonderful opportunity to develop social skills and friendships with other children and caring adults.

Our 2010 summer program runs from June 17-August 24 and hours are 6:45 am-6:00 pm. Registration information is available online at www.edinacommunityed.org/kidsclub. You may also view Creek Valley KIDS Club's 2010 summer field trip calendar at <http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/creekvalley/students/kidsclub/index.html>

HANDS-ON LEARNING FAIR

Saturday, April 17

In celebration of *The Week of the Young Child*, School Readiness and the Edina Early Childhood Community are sponsoring the 12th annual Hands-On Learning Fair for children 18 months through kindergarten on Saturday, April 17 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. This free event will be held at Countryside Elementary School (5701 Benton Avenue.) Many of the Edina area pre-schools and child care centers, including the Edina Family Center and Edina kindergartens, will provide fun learning activities for children and parents. Children will also have the opportunity to participate in activities related to creative arts, science, sensory exploration, music and games. The Hands-On Learning Fair is funded by a grant from the Edina Education Fund with additional support from EPEE, Edina Partners in Early Education.

Bike Edina Task Force Bike Rodeo



The Bike Edina Task Force rodeo will be held on Saturday, April 17, 2010 (rain or shine) from 10am-noon at Highlands Elementary School parking lot. Bicyclists from all Edina Elementary schools are encouraged to attend. This free event is made up of a series of stations, each dealing with an important aspect of safe cycling. Participants will have their bicycles inspected and will then learn about and practice bicycle-handling skills that will increase their enjoyment of bicycling and could some day save their lives. Parents, other family members and friends are also welcome. Please bring bicycle and helmet. For more information, please contact Rob Erickson at 952-454-8523 or Peter Hodne at 952-848-4500.

EDINA BIKE FESTIVAL TO FIGHT HUNGER TO BENEFIT SECOND HARVEST, FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN AND VEAP



EDINA

BIKE FESTIVAL
TO FIGHT HUNGER

Edina Morningside Rotary Club will host the **second annual community bike ride**, the Edina Bike Festival to Fight Hunger, on Saturday, May 15 at 9:00am at Rosland Park in Edina. Participants will ride a circle route through Rosland Park, returning to the start for fun, food and games. For more information, visit the event website at www.edinabikefest.com or call Mary Brindle at 952-941-7746.

The next Paws for News publication deadline is Friday, April 9th for the Wednesday, April 14th edition. Content may be edited for space, or reserved for a later edition. E-mail the editors at bsmith19@comcast.net (word document preferred) or call Bonnie Smith (952-996-9648) or Vivien Talghader (952-944-3378)