



Poyner Elementary Newsletter April 2011

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KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP

District-wide Kindergarten Roundup for the 2010-11 school year will be held on Friday, April 8, at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. There will be no kindergarten on that day.

Parents are asked to attend the roundup in their attendance area and are reminded to bring their child, proof of their child's age, proof of address, and a copy of their child's immunization records. The following items will be accepted as proof of age: doctor's letter, baptismal records, or immunization records. Proof of address may be: utility bill, lease/rental contract, etc.

We look forward to seeing our future Poyner Panthers on April 8!

PTO—Our next meeting will be held on April 5 at 5:30 p.m. We need parent volunteers to help with the Fun Fair. Please come to the meeting to help with the planning. Without adequate volunteers, we will need to cut down on the amount of activities, so please help make this a fun event for our students.

NO SCHOOL— There will be no school on April 22. On April 8, kindergarten students will not have school, because we will have kindergarten roundup that day.

UPCOMING CONCERTS—Our 1st Grade music program has been rescheduled for April 12. The Kindergarten Music Program will be held on April 19. We hope to see you there!

ITBS TESTS

The required ITBS subtests will be given from March 30 to April 5. Please make sure that your child gets plenty of rest and eats a healthy breakfast!!!

CALENDAR

- April 5 Parent Teacher Committee—5:30 p.m.
- April 8 Kindergarten Roundup—9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
(NO SCHOOL for Kindergarten Students)
- April 12 4th & 5th Grade to Symphony
1st Grade Music Program—
2:45 Afternoon Assembly
6:30 p.m. Evening Performance
- April 19 Kindergarten Music Program—
2:45 Afternoon Assembly
6:30 p.m. Evening Performance
- April 21 Earth Day Activities—Boule'
Godfather's Pizza Night
- April 22 NO SCHOOL

WELCOME BACK—We hope that everyone had a wonderful Spring Break. The next two months are going to be very busy at our schools. Please make sure to check the calendar of activities.

NEXT YEAR—We are beginning to plan for next year. If you are moving and know that you will not be attending Poyner Elementary, please call the school office and let us know. Thank you for your assistance.

LUNCH—Thank you to all the parents who are coming to lave lunch with your child. We love to have you visit. If you or a member of your family are coming to school and would like to eat school lunch, please let us know by 9:00 a.m., so we can ensure that there are enough lunches that day. Also, if family members other than the parent or guardian come to school, we must have a written note of approval from the parent.

HUG AND GO LANE - Thank you to those who are following the procedures in the Hug and Go Lane. Please remember that students cannot be picked up in the outside lane.

KIDS' CORNER

Write the title of a book written by Eric Carle.

Your Name: _____

Your Grade: _____

(Fill in the answer and bring this slip to Mrs. Zeigler by April 14.)

SINA—Many of you are aware of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, which requires schools to assess students annually and to meet student achievement goals. If a school does not meet those assessment and achievement goals (termed “adequate yearly progress” or AYP) for two consecutive years, and if the school receives federal Title I funds, then it is placed on a federal “Schools in Need of Assistance (SINA)” list and subjected to federal sanctions. Schools or districts are cited if they a) don’t meet 95% participation rate for assessments, b) don’t meet student achievement goals, or c) don’t meet attendance rate for elementary and middle schools or graduation rate for high school.

Last year Poyner Elementary was designated as a “School in Need of Assistance,” or SINA, under these federal guidelines because a portion of our students did not reach proficiency on their reading and mathematics tests for two consecutive years. Once a school has been given the SINA designation, they are automatically on the list for 2 years; therefore, Poyner will be a SINA school for the 2011-12 school year

Please know that the SINA designation refers to federal criteria. We remain a fully accredited school in complete compliance with State of Iowa regulations. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Zeigler at (319) 433-1534.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP:

Parent support is essential to help your student reach his or her highest academic success, but parents may need ideas about the best way to be involved. A few suggestions include:

****Communicate regularly with your child’s teachers about overall goals for the year and your child’s progress toward those goals.**

****Make sure your child attends school regularly. Attendance is important at every grade level. When your child must be absent, please talk with the teacher to coordinate make-up work and assignments.**

****Help your child with his or her homework.**

****Volunteer at the school. Every teacher needs volunteers to help in the classroom, or even with projects that can be done in your home. Other areas in the school, such as the office or cafeteria, also need volunteers.**

CREATIVE GENIUS WANTED! - Camp Invention[®] at Lincoln Elementary School needs your help in designing an amusement park this summer. Imagination Point needs a new roller coaster and lots of other exciting rides! You’ll also get to use real tools to take apart a mechanical device and work as a team to create a new invention! Then, you’ll have to figure out how to survive when your spaceship crash lands on an alien planet!

You’ll find lots more fun things to do at Camp Invention. Camp will be held on June 20-24 from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, and will be presented by local teachers for girls and boys entering grades 1-6. Camp director: Carrie Heinzerling

This national, non-profit science and creativity enrichment program is offered by Waterloo Community School District in collaboration with Invent Now Kids and the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Register by March 30th or with a friend and save \$25! For more information, call **800-968-4332** or go to **www.campinvention.org**.

SAFETY IN THE WATERLOO SCHOOLS—

A federal grant has allowed us to purchase “Raptor” Visitor Monitoring Systems and Software for each of our schools and Education Service Center. It will provide an effective and affordable way to help schools keep unwanted visitors out and keep your children safe.

These systems will be in the main office of each school where visitors go to check in already. Building staff will help visitors check in by scanning a driver license, or other state-issued ID, and the software will instantly screen for registered sex offenders, domestic dispute offenders, and other locally entered restrictions. A badge will be printed with the visitor’s name, photo, date, and time. If a potential threat is identified, designated officials will be instantly notified. If you don’t have a government issued ID, the district can provide a Visitor Approved Card with proof of your name and date of birth. Please contact your counselor, family support worker, or district translator for more information.

Raptor systems have been installed. Buildings will begin to use the system and work through any issues that may occur. We appreciate your patience as we work through this new implementation and continue to make our buildings safer for staff and students.