



Tiger Cub News

Orville C. Krause Early Elementary

May 28, 2010

New School Improvement Plan for 2010-2011

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It's that time again! Time for us to look over all of our student achievement data for this school year and to determine, based on that data, what three goals we need to set for next year's School Improvement Plan!

Staff used our May 7th staff development day to review all of the math data and do a MEAP Item Analysis to identify those areas in which we need to strengthen our program in math for next year. Our math goal will focus in part on building math fluency, and will use the MBSP and chapter tests to assess our progress throughout the year.

And since our entire staff

continually uses DIBELS scores we already had a fairly good handle on what areas we need to work on in our reading instruction and reading interventions. Next year's goal will be for students to increase their accuracy in reading words, as well as building fluency.

That left one more goal area — and since we want to increase our focus on science, tying a writing goal in with that science goal seems ideal! Our third goal will focus on building knowledge of the scientific inquiry process. Students will reflect their understanding through science writing, creating a set of four different scientific



inquiry writing evaluation pieces through out the course of the school year.

All goals must be formally written and submitted to the state — along with a new education report by district and school — by the beginning of August. Our plan will be posted on the website as soon as it is approved!

Special points of interest:

- * Tuesday, June 8
Half Day AM
Last day of school
- * Week of August
Welcome back letter to all parents, announcing the classroom assignments for the coming year
- * Tuesday, September 7
First day of school for all students

Parking Lot Blues....

Guess who could NOT get into the parking lot last week because SOMEONE parked wrong IN THE LOT and blocked traffic? Guess who wasn't happy? Guess how many parents complain each week about others who park thoughtlessly in the middle of

the traffic routes to wait for their children to exit school? Guess what else?

Starting this fall we will be taking snapshots of the license plates of vehicles repeatedly parked illegally and we may even put those photos in the newsletter each month! We

have begged and begged — so if you have another solution for us, PLEASE call and tell us! We don't want to be the grouchy guys here but parking illegally really DOES present a danger (and inconvenience) to parents stuck in the street waiting to get into the lot!

RAIN, RAIN, RAIN!

Mrs. Andrews' class isn't bothered by a little rain! In fact, she says that Mother Nature helped them out by inspiring them to make umbrellas out of markers and coffee filters — which then tied in perfectly with their reading unit on the short 'u' sound (umbrella).

Our little artists folded their coffee filters perfectly and then dipped the bottom of the triangle into a puddle. They then flipped the filter upside down and observed how the water slowly flowed to the ends of the filter. Phonics, science, and art in the same lesson! Who knew learning could be such fun?



Missing any of your child's wardrobe?

I'm surprised that some of our children even have any clothes on, given the HUGE amount of clothing items that have piled up in our Lost and Found over the course of the year!

And even though we have put all of the items on display DAILY for the last week during lunch and invited our students to walk by and review our 'collection' we still have much too

many items left unclaimed!

So, now it is YOUR chance to come and see if your child's missing 'whatever' items are here to take home. ALL items will remain out on

We have hats, gloves, coats, pants, sweatshirts, shoes, scarves, socks, and miscellaneous items waiting for their owners!

display on tables set up in front of the offices during the week of June 1-4. Please feel free to stop by and look at any time during the day — and to claim those items that you recognize.

Any unclaimed items will be gathered together and donated to a worthy cause at the close of the school year so this may be your very last chance to salvage part of your child's wardrobe!

Dressing up for our Mother's Day Tea

May 6th marked our annual Mother's Day Tea Party — a celebration of the importance of all of our mothers and recognition of all that mothers do throughout the world.

It's a time for everyone to put on their fancy hats and finery and come together to share a few goodies and a million memories! There were keepsakes presented to moms, destined to be treasured throughout the coming

years, and our own professional photographer on site to record the moment with a sepia colored photo collection.

Our informal snapshot from Mrs. Andrews' class, (Avery Volkenaut's mom pictured on the right in her fancy hat and boa) says it all! YOU are appreciated and loved, Mom! Thank you for being exactly who you are... you are the best!



Butterflies escape from school!

Jacob Jankowski, Kaleb Sutton, Alec Albrecht, and Tommy Andrews from Mrs. Lillie's first grade room wave a fond farewell to their winged friends — the butterflies!

Releasing these winged insects was the culminating activity of a three week science lesson on the life cycle of the butterfly.

The originally chrysalis clad critters, along with their netted 'cage,' were purchased from a mail order science teaching materials resource center and then raised inside the classroom

until they all hatched. Once hatched, they received their nourishment from water melon pieces placed on the floor of their netted home and were kept safe until their wings dried and they gained enough strength to fly away.

The class then took their young wards out to the play ground and cheered on the release of the butterflies as they spread their wings and sailed to their new lives.



Our P.A.T. is A-OK!!!!

So what is P.A.T. anyway? Why, it's our Parent Action Team, of course! Earlier this year we launched an early elementary volunteer parent group to address some of the specific concerns and issues that had surfaced in our Parent Survey in December, and to bring us new ideas and suggestions for improvement from a parent point of view. And let us tell you, they are FULL of wonderful ideas and actions!

Our PAT group has selected three focus areas for this year: 1.) totally redoing the Early Elementary Parent Handbook, 2.) working to revamp our lunch selections to promote healthier eating choices; 3.) addressing the problem of the parking lot flow and parents who park illegally. So far our PAT has come up with great solutions and they are working to implement even more ideas including starting a

social meeting group for those parents new to the school, and exploring fund raising for more technology at the elementary, and starting a REAL vegetable garden for students!

Our next P.A.T. will meet Wednesday, May 26, 2010, in the workroom next to the main office! All are welcome!

Last chance for Summer Tutoring!

Just in case you missed our flyers about summer tutoring....

Both Mrs. Foster and Ms. Bovenschen still have some availability for private summer tutoring for reading and/or for math across early grade levels.

If you are interested, you may contact them directly at:

Ms. Bovenschen 586-784-2627

Mrs. Foster 586-784-2622

The cost is \$45.00 per week for one hour a day for three days a week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday). Or call to see about making arrangements for just part time tutoring or early registration cost reductions.

Tutoring will be at the elementary school and will run in two sessions. Either teacher can share additional information as needed or may be able to help meet your own schedule needs.



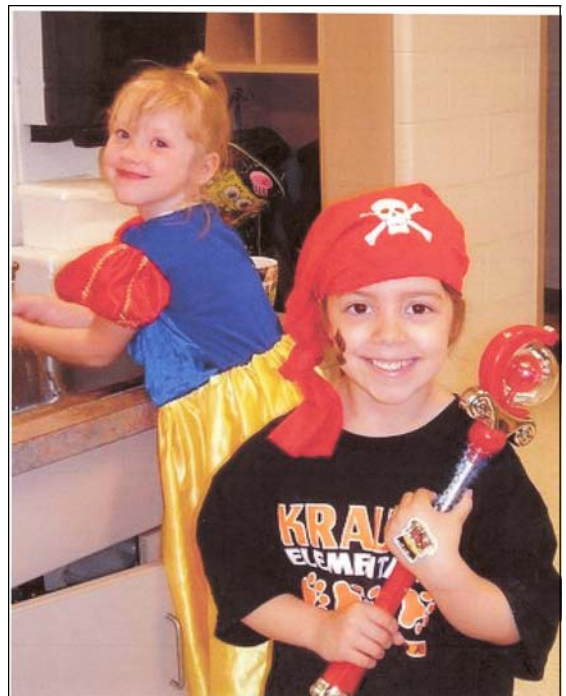


Mrs. Isaacson's morning Kindergarten class enjoys their "Father's Day Pirate Picnic" ... with pirate tee shirts!

Kindergarten 'Father's Day Pirate Picnic!'



Pirates Aidan Wheeler and Isaac Allard throw down some pirate grub with dads in Ms. Trombly's room!



Cassidy Bourgois and Bailey Benedict — two of our pirate's day princesses from Mrs. Slobodnik's class!