



Spencer Loomis Newsletter

March 25th, 2011
Volume 28

Curriculum Updates

The staff used the Early-Release Day on March 16th to work on technology, writing and discuss our professional learning teams.

All the teachers participated with grade level teams to discuss writing rubrics and student writing prompts. Each grade level selected a writing prompt and then had all the students write to that prompt. Teachers used a rubric to score some writing samples so they can become more consistent in their assessment. The discussion and activity provided a wonderful opportunity for the teachers to discuss specific attributes of a good piece of writing.

Special Interest: Spring Break:

Spencer Loomis will be closed from March 26th- April 3rd.

Classes will resume on Monday, April 4th.

Reminder:

The SL Attendance number is (847)719-3366.

Use this number to call in Late Arrivals, Vacations, Doctor's or Dental Appointments etc... Please note this is a 24 hour answering machine.

PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL THE TEACHERS FOR ATTENDANCE. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.

Character Counts- March

The Character Counts!™ Trait for April is “Fairness”. The theme for April will revolve around Earth Day (recycling and going green). Keep these slogans in mind, “Be Fair! Do Your Share!” and “Protect the Earth—It’s the only one we have!” Teachers will discuss what “Fair” People Do:



- Play by the rules
- Take turns and share
- Listen and are open-minded
- Don't blame carelessly
- Don't take advantage of people's mistakes or weaknesses
- Don't take sides in an argument

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Character Counts/Social Emotional Learning Standards

We are continuing our efforts to address the Illinois State Board of Education's Social/Emotional Learning Goals. During the spring the staff will be addressing Goal #2: **“Use social-awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships.”** We will be focusing on Goal 2, Standard D: **“Demonstrate an ability to prevent, manage, and resolve interpersonal**

conflicts in constructive ways.” We are going to survey our students to gain some insight into the kind of interpersonal conflicts they have experienced this year and help them identify approaches to resolve those conflicts in a constructive manner. We will also be having the students role play various situations so they can practice how to resolve conflicts appropriately.

It is essential that we work with you as parents to help our students and your children demonstrate appropriate interpersonal skills and build positive relations.



Technology Updates

As part of our Early-Release Day last week the staff learned about some exciting new websites to enhance teaching and learning. When you have time take some time to visit the following websites:

www.prezi.com This website allows students to create power point projects.

www.ujam.com This website platform allows students to put background music to their power point presentations.

www.wolframalpha.com This website is a computational knowledge engine that helps students do math, get facts, and access vast scientific information.

www.popplet.com This website

helps students create very elaborate graphic organizers that include photos. It is similar to Inspiration and Kidspiration with many more options.

Please note these websites will most likely be used by older students; I wanted to share with you where our Technology is moving within the District.

Once you have had a chance to visit some of these sites I would be very interested in getting some feedback from you. Please send me an e-mail at grant.seaholm@lz95.org. If you know of other websites that enhance learning please send me those links.



3rd Annual Science Fair

District 95's Third Annual Science Fair is Back!!

This year, Lake Zurich CUSD #95 will be hosting its Science Extravaganza on Saturday, April 16th

from 8:30-11:30am. At Mid-



dle School South. Participation is open to all K-8 students in Lake Zurich. Along with having students share a project or collection, the following extras will be part of the day:

High school robotics team

Lego team demonstration

Professor Gizmo's Science Show

You can get more information and register online at the following link:

<https://spreadsheets0.google.com/viewform?formkey=dEhWUkhBUURDL S04NDR2ckFXakhHYkE6MA>

SL PTO Needs You!!

The SL PTO is beginning to "slate" positions for the 2011-2012 school year! The following board positions are open for next year: President, Vice-President, and Secretary. If you would like to have your name placed on the ballot for any of these positions, please contact Debbie Toussaint at 847-438-7253 or debbiejo564@comcast.net

Also, most of our committees will have open positions for next year's roster. We currently have Art Parent and Field Day committees filled, but the remaining committees need one or two co-chairs in order to have these committees and events move forward. Enrichment Awards, Journey into the Arts, Fundraising, Family Events, Room-Parent Coordinator, Halloween Fest, and Teacher Hospitality are just a few examples of committees that need to be filled.

Call a friend, choose a committee and work together! Get involved and have fun! Please contact Debbie Toussaint to sign-up.

FAMILY EVENTS.....BINGO

Be sure to come out and join us for the last family event of the year!

Date: Friday, April 8th

Time: Social Hour begins with Culver's selling dinner at 5:15 (10% of profits are donated back to the PTO)

BINGO is from 6:15 - 7:15

Cost: Pre-Registration is \$2.00 per person, by Friday 3/25/11; otherwise \$3.00 at the door (one card per person)

Please remember this is a family event so all children must be accompanied by an adult

Great prizes will be awarded

Please contact Stacey Marguerite or Lora Rampino with additional questions

Important Dates: March-May

Saturday, March 26th-April 3rd

Monday, April 4th

Friday, April 8th

Tuesday, April 12th

Saturday, April 16th

Thursday, April 21st

Friday, April 22nd

Monday, April 25th

Wednesday, April 27th

Wednesday, April 27-29th

Monday May 2nd—May 13th

Friday, May 13th

Monday, May 16th

Thursday, May 19th

Tuesday, May 24th

Tuesday, May 24th

Thursday, May 26th

Friday, May 27th

Monday, May 30th

Spring Break

Classes Resume

SL Bingo Night

Spring– Lifetouch Pictures

Science Fair Expo @ MSS

Early Release Day

No School

No School

SL Open House 7PM

SL Book Fair

MAP Testing

SL PTO Meeting– 9AM

5th Grade Band Sign-up @ SL 4:30

No School– Institute Day

SL Kindergarten Field Day

5th Grade Band Concert @ MSN 7PM

SL Kindergarten Field Day– Rain Date

Early Release Day

No School– Memorial Day

