

Our mission is to maximize learning for all students

MAXEY Messenger



Patrick Decker, Principal
pdecker@lps.org

Tracey Peterson, Assistant Principal
tpeters@lps.org

Terri Nelson, Coordinator
tnelson@lps.org

Maxey Elementary School * 5200 S. 75th Street * Lincoln, NE 68516
(402) 436-1153* (Fax) 458-3253* <http://maxey.lps.org>

Volume 15

August 26, 2009

Number 3

Important Upcoming Dates

Thurs., Aug. 27: 5th Grade Parent Information Night (6:30-7:30p.m.)
Mon., Aug. 31: 4th Grade Parent Information Night (6:30-7:30p.m.)
Thurs., Sept. 3: Kindergarten Parent Information Night (6:30-7:30p.m.)
Mon., Sept. 7: NO SCHOOL – LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED
Mon., Sept. 14: PTO Executive Committee Mtg.-Office Conference Rm (6:00-7:00p.m.)
PTO General Meeting-Annex (7:00-8:00p.m.)
Wed., Sept. 23: Individual Picture Day
Thurs., Sept. 24: Fun Night (5:00-7:30p.m.)
Tues., Sept. 29: PLC Early Release Day – Dismissal at 2:18p.m.
NO SCHOOL FOR EXCITE STUDENTS
Oct. 8-14: Book Fair – Media Center
Thurs., Oct. 8: Parent Teacher Conferences (3:45-6:45p.m.)
Tues., Oct. 13: Parent Teacher Conferences (3:45-6:45p.m.)
Tues., Oct. 20: PLC Early Release Day – Dismissal at 2:18p.m.
NO SCHOOL FOR EXCITE STUDENTS
Fri., Oct. 23: Fall Classroom Parties (2:45-3:30p.m.)
Oct. 26-30: FALL BREAK – NO SCHOOL – SCHOOL CLOSED

Off To A Good Start

We are off to a good beginning of the 2009-10 school year! Student lunch is going very well. We have been able to provide more time for students to eat and receive their full lunch recesses. Students have very short lines to stand in before receiving their school lunches.

As always, we invite parents to come to school and eat with their children. The "Maxey Student/Parent Handbook" provides you with the various grade level lunch times. If you plan to eat a school lunch, please call the Maxey Kitchen (436-1153 x3) and let them know in advance.

Student "drop off" and "pickup" will become better and better as we move into a consistent schedule. We all need to keep in mind that welcoming 865 students and dismissing them safely takes time.

Consistent Schedules

Now that we are on a consistent school schedule, we are providing you with the "Day 1,2,3,4,5,6, and 7" specialist schedules. Please find these attached. This schedule will tell you what days of the week you have art, music, P/E, and technology.

Maxey Grade Level Learning Goals for 2009-10

Our grade level teachers began meeting in late July and August to develop the student learning goals for 2009-10. Below are those goals written in student language:

1. **Kindergarten:** Students will learn to name letters, identify letter sounds, and read words
2. **First Grade:** Students will make reading sound like talking
3. **Second Grade:** Students will become more fluent readers
4. **Third Grade:** Students will score a 3 or 4 in reading fluency on the 4th grade report card
5. **Fourth Grade:** Students will improve reading comprehension by applying skills taught in the classroom and building vocabulary understanding
6. **Fifth Grade:** Ninety-five percent of students will score advanced or proficient on the "Numeration/Computation" strand on the LPS Math Criterion Referenced Test in spring 2010.
7. **Specialists:** Students will be able to understand the characteristics that need to be developed to build personal character.
9. **Special Education:** Students will improve their understanding of what is read with teacher support.

Next week we will publish the professional educator wording of these goals.

Updated Census Forms

Just a reminder to PLEASE turn in your census forms with any changes, all filled out, and with your signature on the back. These are due back to your child's homeroom teacher by the end of this week (Friday, August 28). It is important to do this so we have current contact information for your child. Thank you in advance!

Review of Procedures for Visiting Maxey School

LPS has standardized procedures for parents, patrons, and guests visiting Maxey Elementary School. As you are aware, all schools now have "Security Entrance Monitors" (greeters) located near the main entrance of every building. Simply stated, anyone who wishes to travel into the building during school hours will be asked to stop at the greeter desk to sign in and get a visitor badge. However, if you just wish to drop off a personal belonging of your child's, or you wish to pick your child up for an appointment, you may sit in our waiting area located in the main entrance and our greeter will radio the office to call your child's classroom and indicate that you wish for her/him to meet you at the greeter's area. We also ask that you sign-out when you have finished your visit. Please note that you are ALWAYS welcome at our school. You may visit us and our classrooms

any day and in most cases just about any time during school hours. "Greeters" now placed in all of LPS schools, are there to help provide safety to our students and staff. We hope you understand this and support our efforts. I believe we are very fortunate to have a Board of Education who saw the necessity of this and made a decision to implement it.

As a reminder, due to experiencing a breach in security, any visitors (adults or children) after 4:00p.m. must be escorted by Mr. Decker or Mrs. Peterson.

Connect-Ed Messaging System

As a reminder, our school district implemented this communication system a couple years ago. This system sends out messages to the telephone number and email address that you provide on your child's census information that you were asked to update at Open House. There is one thing to keep in mind when providing us telephone numbers to use. When the Connect-Ed system calls a telephone number, it leaves the message at the phone number that is picked-up or is connected to an answering machine. If you give us a telephone number with an extension number, the message will NOT get to you, but only to the person who answers the main number. The Connect Ed system also can NOT call long distance phone numbers, so please make sure you have a local number for this to call. It is best to have these calls go to home phones or cell phones only. In all cases regarding emergencies, you will receive messages via phone and email. THEREFORE, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU PROVIDE US WITH UPDATES OF NEW PHONE NUMBERS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

By this time you have most likely signed up for Parent-Teacher Conferences with your child's teacher. Shortly you will receive a reminder or confirmation of your conference giving you date and time. I have asked teachers to provide their parents with information about what content area they will cover in their conference. We invite parents to provide their child's teacher with questions they would like answered at the conference.

Academic Standards and Report Cards

Each grade level is hosting "Parent Information Nights" to help parents understand classroom, school and school district expectations. You may visit the LPS website to obtain specific information about each grade level's academic standards and report cards. Here are the directions to find this information. You are encouraged to spend time learning about this information:

www.lps.org

Click the "Instruction & Curriculum" button

Click the "Curriculum /Subject areas" section

Find the sections on Report Card Rubrics and Curriculum Objectives

Student Accident Insurance

If you are interested in student accident insurance for your child, a company called Student Assurance Services Inc. leaves forms at the schools for you to pick up. Ours are located in the brochure holder on the wall by the main entrance. If you choose to do this, you can drop your completed enrollment form off at the Greeter's desk or office.

Banner Club

What: Each year, each elementary school in the LPS district creates a banner that is displayed in the downtown Wells Fargo Bank during Youth Art Month (March). The banner then travels throughout Lincoln for the next year.

Who: Who is Banner Club open to? Banner Club is open to 5th grade students.

When: Banner Club begins at 8:15 AM until 9 AM.
We will meet on Mondays starting Sept 14. Banner Club continues every Monday that school is in session until Dec. 14.

Students will be split into 4 groups (Group A, Group B, Group C, Group D). The number of groups may change – this is determined by how many students sign up. The schedule will be made after the final list of Banner Club students are finalized.

A Banner Club consent sheet will be going home with your son or daughter if they signed up for Banner Club. Please sign this sheet if you give consent for your son or daughter to join and attend Banner Club and have turned in by Sept 4.

Questions? Please feel free to email me at blenzen@lps.org or call 436 -1153.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Hergott
Art Specialist

Media Center Volunteer Requests

The Maxey Media Center would appreciate volunteers for:

- Shelving Books
- Cutting out materials
- Book Fair (October 8-14)

Please contact Sheri Christen, Media Specialist at 436-1153 or schrist@lps.org to volunteer.

In addition to the book fair coming up in early October, we also have other exciting opportunities:

Tuesday, September 22-Runza will donate 15% of all receipts to Lincoln School Libraries!
Wednesday, September 30-John Archambault, author and illustrator (Chicka Chicka BOOM BOOM) will be visiting Maxey in the morning.

Please ask your child about our new check out and cataloging system TLC-The Library Corporation and check it out at <http://media.lps.org/maxey> (the Media Center website)!

Coming home today: Please use the passwords on the green bookmark that your child is bringing home today to help you access great websites on the internet! In addition to our new catalog, TLC, we also have a new search engine, Gale.

Sheri Christen, Maxey Media Specialist