



SWEET PCEL NEWS

Vol. 11, 2008

February 2008

Newsletter of the PARENT COOPERATIVE FOR EARLY LEARNING

Dear PCEL Parents:

It has been a great start to the New Year. Lots and lots of snow! I hope that you are enjoying it. We have some new faces around the PCEL. The new faces are our substitute staff: Carnella Jimerson, Josephine Herephord, and Doris Russell. Please introduce yourself if they are working in your child's classroom. We also welcome Carla McGee, our new cook. Please stop by the kitchen and say hi to her.

We are currently looking to interview people for open positions at the PCEL to fill the position of Asst. Teacher and Lead Teacher. If you know of anyone who is interested in interviewing, please have them send us a resume.

We cancelled the January, 2008 General Membership meeting, but a letter from the President will come out with PCEL News that is of vital importance.

We are currently giving tours and informational meetings to prospective families. If you know parents who are looking for childcare, please have them call me. We have 4 spaces in Explorers classroom and 4 spaces in the Discovery Room. The Imagination Station classroom is full.

Monica Foster
Director

EVENTS CALENDAR

February

2/18 - President's Day - NO SCHOOL

2/25* - Board Meeting, 6:15 pm

2/29 - Parent Teacher Conferences - NO SCHOOL

TBA - Family Outing

March

3/20* - General Meeting, 6:15 pm

3/21-24 - Spring Break - NO SCHOOL

3/28 - Summer Contracts Due

TBA - Fundraising Event

April

4/11-13 - Spring Cleaning

4/16 - PCEL Board Meeting, 6:15 pm

*Please note date change from previous newsletter

Dates are subject to change

THE EXPLORERS ROOM

This month the Explorers will be very busy. We will learn about groundhogs, shadows, former presidents, love and the color red, Chinese New Year, and Black History Month.

1st week - Groundhog Day/Chinese New Year

2nd week - Red Week/Valentine's Day

3rd week - President's Day

4th week - Parent Conference 2/29

Happy Birthday to all our February birthdays! Happy Belated Birthday to Stacey!

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Tuition is due on the 1st of every month, with a grace period that ends on the 10th. A \$20 late fee is assessed if tuition is paid after the 10th day of the month.
- Parents please make sure to pick up your child on time every day. Late pick-ups will result in a late fee:

Pick-Up Times are:

Part-time children: 12:30 p.m.

Full-day children: 6:00 p.m.

GET INVOLVED!

Looking for ways to get involved? Then join the Parent Co-op Board of Directors! It's a great way to make a difference (and earn credits). If you are interested, please submit a letter that tells why you should be chosen as a great board member at Parent Co-op.

Please communicate with your child's classroom teacher to make sure your credits are on record.

IMAGINATION STATION

We continue learning about the alphabet, focusing on the letters L, M and N. We made lemonade and tasted lemons and limes. A lot of the children really enjoyed sucking on the lemons! For the letter M, we set up the marble run. We will look at maps and make our run look for it.

We are enjoying the lunches our new cook, Miss Carla is making. We welcome her and her good food.

On the day of the big snow, we took the children with snowsuits/snow pants outside to play. We had a really good time! Monica brought us a water table full of snow. The group put on mittens and played "in" the snow. Later in the afternoon I asked, "Where is the snow?" so we had a fun conversation about melting snow.

Tracy and Babs attended the NAEYC Convention. Babs brought back new books - Peanuts was the favorite.

Our friend Mimi will be leaving as he and his family return to Taiwan. We will miss him! We will welcome two new families in the next few months.

The Imagination Station Team

INDOOR SHOES

Last Month we had a fire drill and many of the children's indoor shoes got wet. Please make sure your child's indoor shoes are rubber-soled shoes that can be worn outside in case of an emergency. You do not need to get a new pair of shoes. Anything from home will be fine and you can clean the soles and leave them at school. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please talk to Monica.

BECOME A PCEL BOARD MEMBER

Board elections will be held during the February 26th board meeting. All parents of currently enrolled children are eligible and encouraged to run to serve on the board. The board, which includes parents and staff, meets once every other month in the evening during the school year and once a month in the summer.

The board supports the director and the staff in running the school, making policies, chairing committees, devising the budget and assisting with other tasks as needed.

If you are interested in being considered to serve as a PCEL Board Member, you must type a one page summary stating why you want to become a member and attach a picture of yourself. Please drop it off in the office with Monica.

The board encourages all interested parents to speak with Monica Foster or a current board member to obtain more information. For a list of board members, please contact Monica.

Lastly, serving on the board is very rewarding because it allows parents to play an active role in the educational environment of your child.

DISCOVERY ROOM

Hello from the Discovery Room.

We are in the second month of 2008 and all is good.

We will continue working with numbers and the alphabet. We will also continue our 100 days of school. We are almost there!!

Our themes for February are:

Feb 4-8 Black History
Feb 11-15 Valentine's
Feb 18-22 Winter
Feb 25-29 Time

Happy Birthday to all our February Birthdays!

We would like to take the time to welcome Zuri Yearwood and her family to the Discovery Room.

Parents, Please make sure you sign-up to do laundry! Thank you!

Char and Jackie

ABOUT WEAHTER-RELATED SCHOOL CLOSINGS

When the weather gets bad, a school often must shut down for a day or two. At PCEL, the decision to close the school is made on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration whether the building (and therefore the school) has heat, electricity, and water; the difficulty of travel for parents and staff; outside temperatures and wind; amount and timing of snowfall or flooding rains. The director, in consultation with the board officers, makes the decision to close the school or remain open.

Room parents are asked to notify parents in the event of a closing. An option may exist to remain open on a limited basis-one or two rooms with a partial staff.