



COUGAR TRACKS

The School Newsletter - BELMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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October 17, 2008

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PRINCIPAL THOUGHTS.....FROM DEB DABBERT

TRANSITIONS

One of the eight components of our School Wide Plan is transition. We have identified two separate, yet related, areas of transition. These two areas are social transitions and academic transitions.

Social Transitions – These transitions are intended to assist the student in making successful transitions from grade to grade by helping the student build relationships with future teachers, adults that can assist them, older peers that can act as peer models, provide parents with needed information to assist their child and help the student build a sense of belonging and purpose. As a student becomes older, that student not only continues to benefit from the social transition programs but also becomes a working member in helping younger students in this process. Examples of social transitions include the following: teacher/student trade day – end of year activity that allows the students to meet the next year's grade level teachers, peer helpers, interpreters, open house, common language for behavior and academic expectations, and post cards/phone calls or pencil boxes delivered by new teacher.

Academic Transitions – These transitions are intended to assist teachers in gaining information that will be used to better identify each student's individual needs from the first day of school. Each student's abilities in the areas of math and reading are assessed throughout the year. This information is shared with teachers across grade levels, teachers in specialized areas (i.e. special education and ELL), and among classroom teachers at the same grade level as they prepare lessons. Examples of academic transitions include the following: extended learning opportunities – additional math and literacy interventions, cross grade level transitional meetings, curriculum nights and literacy bags.

COUGAR PRIDE ASSEMBLY

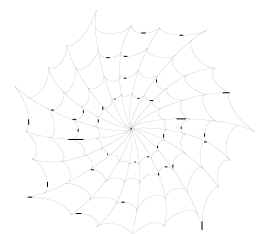
At the September Cougar Pride assembly we recognized students with outstanding character and behavior. Golden Ticket winners were recognized from each classroom. Winners selected a prize of their choice.

Each grade level, ELL, Literacy, and Specialist teams selected an Exceptional Cougar Citizen Award winner. This award recognizes a student that is doing their best in the areas of academics, behavior, friendship skills and responsibility. The following students were awarded a certificate and Belmont Exceptional Cougar T-Shirt:

Clayton Grant
Hakdad Abdul-Basir
Hussein Al-Turki
Ronan Mcollough

Anna Vu
Andy Nguyen
Chase Lierman

Jaden Ferguson
Zach Benes
Michele Martin



PARA EDUCATORS: Liz Carney Terri Edwards

Each grade level shared their SMART (Strategic and Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Results based, Time-bound) goals through chants or songs. The student body recognized the growth for each grade level SMART goal.

SAFETY

You are invited to attend a session on neighborhood safety at Eisely Library on Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m. A police officer will be talking about recognizing and reporting suspicious activity in your neighborhood, safety tips for children walking to and from school, and the McGruff House program.

A NOTE TO KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE

Fall is here and it turns our thoughts to eating soup. On the elementary lunch menu we serve chili and tomato soup. Because of concern for children's safety we have decided not to serve kindergarten and first grade student's soup. Our serving lines are high and our kindergarten and first grade students are short. We are fearful that the hot soup could spill on a student and burn them when they pull their tray down from the serving line. Kindergarten and first grade students will still have two entrees to select from but will not be offered the soup on the days it is on the menu. October 16 instead of chili, the second entrée will be cheese pizza and on Friday, October 17, tomato soup will not be offered to the kindergarten and first grade students. Second semester we will start serving first grade students soup, by then they are tall enough to handle the tray with the soup. If you have questions, please call Edith Zumwalt, Director of Nutrition Services, 436-1742.

ATTENDANCE: A KEY TO YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS

Schools are responsible for teaching your children. Schools can't do their job if your child is absent. Learning builds day by day. A child who misses a day of school misses a day of learning.

Being late for school hurts a child's learning, too. A student who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the year.

Children can make up an assignment, but they can never get back what's most important; the discussions, the questions, the explanations by the teacher and the thinking that makes learning come alive. Your child's success in school depends on having a solid educational background – one that can only be gained through regular school attendance.

Improve your child's school attendance by:

- Talk with your child about the importance of attending school regularly.
- Avoid scheduling family trips or doctor appointments during school hours.
- Make sure your child stays healthy by eating nutritious food and getting enough sleep and exercise.
- Don't accept excuses for why your child "must" miss or be late for school.
- Discuss with your child what happened at school each day.
- Show your child why education is important. Give specific examples of how education helps people succeed.

Research shows that attendance is the single most important factor in school success.



BUBBAS CLOSET

LPS Elementary Principals present Bubba's Closet on Saturday, November 15, at Pershing Elementary, 6402 Judson Street, from 8:00 a.m. to 10 a.m. Families can pick out items to adopt and use. This is one of the many American Education Week activities planned in Lincoln Public Schools.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT PLAN
Thinking Through Problems with Children

- * **What is the problem that is created for the child by his own problem behavior?**
- * **What is it we want for the child?**
- * **How can we support the child in changing?**
- * **What will we do to support the child in changing?**
- * **How will we teach the child more productive ways of reacting and behaving?**
- * **What is the first step toward changing that the child will be expected to take?**

FREE CLOTHING

Saturday, October 18, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Capitol City Christian Church, 7800 Holdrege Street, you can receive free clothing as needed. Those seeking to stretch their resources; come get what you can use. It's all free. Also, if you have clothing that you would like to donate, you can do so as well. Drop off what you no longer need and pick out what you can use!

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL



Lincoln Parks and Recreation, Belmont Elementary School, and Belmont Family Association are sponsoring a Halloween Carnival on Sunday, October 26, from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Belmont Recreation Center, 1234 Judson Street. We could really use candy donations for this event. If your child donates a bag of candy, he/she will receive a golden ticket. We appreciate all candy donations. Please call 441-6789 with any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 21 – Parent Teacher Conferences, School dismisses at 1:35 p.m. for PLC
October 23 – Parent Teacher Conferences
October 24 – First quarter ends
October 27 – 31 – No School, Fall Break
November 4 – Picture retakes
November 10 – 5:30, Executive BFA Meeting
November 11 – 5:30, Belmont Family Association Meeting
November 14 – Report Cards Sent Home

REMINDERS:

October 21, School dismisses at 1:35 p.m.
No after school clubs Tuesday, October 21,
Thursday, October 23, and Friday, October
24



No school October 27-31

