

Centennial News, February 1, 2009

From the Desk of Principal ...Thomas M. Stiglic, Ed.D.

School Expense Reductions

Field Trips

School District U-46 and Centennial School are forced to reduce expenses just like most of America. The number and types of field trips have been reduced. Centennial students will be going on educational field trips that meet district educational guidelines. Roller skating will be out as an approved field trip. A Hemmens Cultural Center visit will be permitted as a field trip.

School Budget Reductions

The State of Illinois has been unable to meet all of its financial obligations to the school district. The 2008-2009 Centennial School Budget has been reduced by 10% as of February 2009. Also, the district has reduced the average room temperature and use of electricity. In addition, the district has directed us to cut back on almost all overtime in the school. We are asking parents to dress their students for the change in room temperature.

The school district might be facing additional budget reductions this year and next year. We will keep you informed of further changes at Centennial School.

2009-2010 School Staffing

Centennial School has been given the following staffing as of February 2009:

- a. three classes in kindergarten through fourth grade classes,
- b. two fifth grade classes,
- c. one five/six classroom,
- d. three sixth grade classrooms,
- e. and two self-contained autism classes.

We will also have a full-time speech teacher and part-time social work, O.T., and cross categorical teachers. In addition, our school building host offices for specialized physical education staff, a psychologist and for teachers of gifted and hearing impaired students.

Attendance and Tardies

Students need to be in school on time. School starts at 8:30am for most students. The kindergarten students start at 8:30 (AM Class) and 12 noon (PM Class. Students who are late for school will receive a warning for being tardy. If a student is late again they may face alternate lunch and recess.

Staff Members of the Week

Mrs. Martin, Ms. Maga and Mr. Moehrlin sixth grade teachers and Erin Bryant (student teacher) were designated Centennial Staff Members of the Week of February 16, 2009. We want to thank these teachers and student teacher for their work at outdoor education camp, in the classroom and on many school projects.

Institute Day and Spring Recess Schedule

Centennial students will have no school Friday, February 27, a Teacher Institute Day. They will also have no school from March 21-March 29 because of Spring Recess. School resumes March 30, 2009

ISAT Testing Information and Suggestions

The following suggestions are recommended for doing good on tests:

1. Be prepared for and know the material you are being tested on,
2. Get a good night's sleep before the test,
3. Eat a good breakfast,
4. and get a lot of encouragement.

Centennial 3rd – 6th grade students will be taking the ISAT tests March 2-13, 2009. ISAT tests are 45 minutes in length. Students are given an extra 10 minutes if they need it. Students with IEPs are allowed to have extended time as set forth in their IEPs (Individual Education Plan).

PTC Meeting

The next PTC meeting is Tuesday, March 3rd, at 7pm, in the all purpose room. The school staff will be bringing proposals for consideration for next year to the PTC. These suggestions will result in fundraising to help cover the costs of the 2009-2010 programs.

Spring Picture Day

The Spring Picture Day is Thursday, March 12th. Information about the day will be sent home prior to the day.

PTC Bingo Night

Bingo Night will be Friday, March 13th, 6:30-8:30pm. The bingo games will be played in the school's all purpose room. Refreshments will be available from our PTC volunteers. All parents, guardians and students are encouraged to attend this fun filled evening.

Learning Center Book Fair

Centennial will host a book fair from March 16-20th. Please come by and purchase some books to read and to help a good cause. Profits from the Book Fair will be used for the students of Centennial School.

Medieval Fair

Centennial will again host a Medieval Fair. The Fair will be Thursday, March 19, from 7:30am – 11:30am. All parents, guardians and students are encouraged to attend the Fair.

Kindergarten Orientation

Centennial School will have a kindergarten orientation for next year's kindergarten students on Thursday, April 16, at 9am. All parents and guardians are invited to attend this informational meeting and register their students. Students are not invited to this meeting.

Centennial Basketball Teams

The Centennial boys and girls basketball teams have begun play. The schedule is:

Feb. 24, Huff at Centennial,

Mar. 3, Centennial at Creekside,

Mar. 9, Centennial at Laurel Hill

Mar. 11 and 12, Centennial at the Elgin Tournament (only if we finish in the top four teams during the season)

Parents and students should be aware that additional games against Sheridan and Horizon will need to be scheduled because of the sixth grade outdoor education dates.

Parents, students, guardians, community members and school staff are encouraged to attend the games and support our teams.