



Classroom Connection

Foster Elementary School

February 2, 2012

A big **THANK YOU** to our dedicated Safety Patrollers this past month: Genevieve Frank, Lee Chia Thao, Kayla and Sophia Sanford, Noah Shannon, Isaac Jones, Hannah Ceccon, Ethan Xiong, Brandon Yang, and Amanda Miller.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING FOUNDATION 4 LEARNING:

Thank you for your interest in the Foundation 4 Learning Class at Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School. The Foundation 4 Learning Class has traditionally been funded by Title I dollars. For the past two years, Foster's share of the Title I dollars has been reduced considerably. As such, we will likely no longer be able to offer the Foundation 4 Learning Class. We will continue to look for alternative funding options; however, it is likely that the class will not run for the 2012/2013 school year. We appreciate your interest in Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School and share your disappointment surrounding the subject of Foundations 4 Learning.

Principal's Message

Happy 2nd Semester! It is amazing to me how fast the time has gone. Before we know it the weather will be turning warmer and we will be celebrating the end of a fantastic year at Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School.

I have really enjoyed getting to know the students, parents and staff at Stephen Foster Elementary School. One thing that I noticed when I arrived was how dedicated our staff is to ensuring the success of your children in their class. Our staff truly cares about students and it shows every day. In January, the window for in-district open-enrollment opens and so does the window for out of district open-enrollment. We have had many parents interested in Foster and as I take them through the building they often remark at how friendly the staff and other parents are to them throughout the building. They say it feels "homey." I hope you are experiencing the same feeling!

While there are many points of pride at Foster, there are some improvement needs that are hard not to notice. The biggest need for improvement is to bring more technology into the classroom and into the hands of our students. Last year, the school ran the Knowledge-athon fundraiser. The money was raised for playground equipment and to supplement the cost of some field trips. The turn-out was fantastic and resulted in more money than we anticipated. At the beginning of this year, we had over \$5,000 left. Based on the feedback from the Charter Board and the staff, a decision was made to take \$2000 of the remaining money and put it towards field trips. An additional \$1000 of playground equipment was purchased. That left us with a little of \$2000. We would like to take the remaining \$2000 and use it to start an account for technology purchases. If you have objection to this, please let me know.

Thank you and have a great February!



Miles of Smiles

PRESENTED BY 

Celebrating Children's Dental Health
At The Building for Kids Children's Museum

FREE ADMISSION TO THE MUSEUM
On Sunday, February 12, 2012, Noon to 5 p.m.

Explore how a healthy mouth is part of a healthy body during this daylong festival spotlighting how to get moving, eat healthy and take care of your teeth.



THE BUILDING FOR KIDS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
100 W. College Avenue, Appleton, WI 54911
www.buildingforkids.org ~ 920.734.3226



SCHOOL CLOSING

Usually the public schools in Appleton are open each day; rarely do they close due to bad weather. If schools are closed, radio stations will be the first to know and get the word out. If you do not hear a closing for the public schools in Appleton, assume we are open as usual. With so many parents working and with the “neighborhood schools” concept that Appleton has, closing school is often more of a hardship for families than can be imagined.



2 HOUR DELAY POLICY

Delayed Start: Students should report to the school no earlier than 10:10AM when we are delayed two hours (and 9:10 AM if we are delayed only 1 hour).

**If there is a delayed start to the school day, the Foster/Boys and Girls Club morning program will be cancelled due to lack of staff at the later start time.

**If school is dismissed early due to weather conditions, the Foster/Boys and Girls Club will be open. However, for safety reasons, we ask that parents pick up their children as soon as they are able, so the Boys and Girls Club staff are able to drive home safely. If weather conditions are extremely bad, the afterschool program will be cancelled and parents will be notified by phone.

NEW SNOW DAY POLICY - BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE FOX VALLEY

When the Appleton Area School District closes all day due to inclement weather, the Locust Street Boys and Girls Club will usually open for programming from 8:00 am – 5:30 pm. Only students ages 7-18 are welcomed to attend the Locust Street Boys & Girls Club.

In the event of extreme weather conditions the Locust Street Boys & Girls Club may choose not to open and will announce this through WHBY 1150 AM and on its website www.bgclubfoxvalley.org. Please contact us at 731-0555 with any questions about this policy.

First Book Fox Valley has been putting books into the hands of students in the Appleton Area School District for over seven years. Each month, students in Appleton schools receive a free book. They stash them away and happily take them home

to create personal libraries. For some students, many of whom are from low income families, these are the only books they own. They treasure each new book and the announcement of the new title each month is highly anticipated.

In Appleton, students receive books at the Foster, Horizons, Lincoln and Columbus after school programs; the Title I programs at Foster, Edison, Jefferson, Lincoln, Columbus and McKinley; the EvenStart preschool program at McKinley; the SAPAR program; and the Appleton Bilingual School at Columbus.

To spread the word about First Book Fox Valley, the non-profit is hosting the 3rd Annual Book Bash at the Menasha Public Library on February 25, 2012. The Book Bash is a fun, free, family event. Participants enjoy therapy dogs, a guest reader, award-winning stories from community students, carnival games, free books to take home and snacks. It runs from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and is open to the public.



Monday, March 12 is set as the date for our 13th annual Talent Show for students in grades 2 - 6. This is a wonderful way for students to showcase their many talents. We hope to see you there!



APPLETON EAST GIRLS SOFTBALL CAMP

The Appleton East Girls Softball Camp will be held Saturday March 24, 2012. Session I will be held on Saturday, March 24th from 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for grades 5th-8th. Session II will be held Saturday, March 24th from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for grades 1st-4th. A free pitching session will be held from 12 noon – 1 p.m. for grades 1st-8th. All sessions will be held at Appleton East High School. THIS CLINIC IS OPEN TO ANY GIRLS IN GRADES 1-8. The cost for each session is \$25.00. (This includes a free T-shirt). Registration forms can be picked up in the East main office. For additional registration information, please contact Janel Batten at 832-6201 or battenjanel@aasd.k12.wi.us.

Collect Box Tops for Education



Turn your grocery shopping trips into easy cash for Foster! Just look for the Box Tops logo on hundreds of products like Cheerios®, Yoplait® yogurt, Ziploc® bags, and Kleenex®. For a full list of participating products, go to www.boxtops4education.com/earn/ and click "clip box tops." There are so many ways to help:

- **Clip Box Tops logos** and have your child turn them into his or her teacher – each one is worth 10¢. If everyone at our school collected 8 Box Tops every month, we'd meet our 2011-2012 goal of raising \$1,756.
- **Put a Box Tops collection bin at your workplace, place of worship, health club, or other places you regularly spend time.**

- **Involve friends and family members** in collecting Box Tops for Foster. No matter where they live, they can make a difference for our school!
- **Volunteer** to help Foster's coordinator count and bundle Box Tops for submission. Email the Foster Family Network at FFN4U@yahoo.com to offer your support.

impact on foster elementary

\$710 earned to date in 2011-2012

\$1,756 goal for 2011-2012

\$1,463 earned in 2010-2011



thanks to you FIELD TRIP FUN

Students will be learning outside of the classroom thanks to you! Field trips introduce young people to a world of experiences that can open new avenues of learning that carry throughout their lives. From nature walks to museum adventures, class trips provide unique educational opportunities for students to learn through hearing, seeing, touching, talking, or doing.

Since field trip expenses are passed onto students, 27 percent of the pledge money raised by the spring 2011 Knowledge-A-Thon (\$2,000) is being allocated to lessen the cost. Each grade level at Foster will receive \$233 to use towards field trips. The remaining \$135 will be put into a fund to help cover trip costs for those who cannot afford it.

1-2-3 MAGIC

A Video-Based Behavior Management Program
For Parents of Children 3-12 years



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ How to **STOP** the behavior you don't want
- ◆ How to **START** the behavior you do want
- ◆ Avoid the talk-persuade-argue-yell-hit syndrome
- ◆ How to handle misbehavior in public
- ◆ How to deal with testing and manipulation

Date: February 9 and 16, 2012 (Thursdays):
Sessions will be held in both Spanish and English

Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Location: Badger Elementary * Appleton

Cost: Free

Child Care: Free with Prior Registration for children 2 and older

Register: Please call Rhonda Dohms at 209-1410 or email at dohmsrhonda@asds.k12.wi.us to register by Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Sponsored by Appleton Area School District Birth - Five Program
and
Parent Connection, a program of Family Services
Badger Elementary, 501 S. Bluemound, Appleton, WI 54914
(920) 209-1410 * dohmsrhonda@asds.k12.wi.us