

Friday notes Extra ...on Thursday, September 27, 2007

North Davis Preparatory Academy

www.northdavisprep.org

NO SCHOOL: Friday, September 28, 2007 - Teacher Compensation Day

Business from the Board of Directors:

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3rd. All interested individuals are invited to attend. The Agenda's for the work session and the formal Board Session is as follows:

WORK SESSION AGENDA

6:00 PM - INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- ❖ Welcome and Introductions —Monte Poll

6:05 PM - BUSINESS ITEMS

(To be Voted Upon During Board Meeting)

- ❖ Discuss Revised Lottery and Enrollment Policy
- ❖ Discuss Records Management Policy
- ❖ Discuss Budget Items Discuss Junior High Progress
 - Grade Configuration

6:40 PM – OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

(Items For Discussion Only)

- ❖ Interventions Report
- ❖ Review on Killer Units
- ❖ Discuss Differentiated Instruction
- ❖ Technology Update
- ❖ **7:30 PM - ADJOURN**

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

7:30 PM – CALL TO ORDER

7:30 PM - INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- ❖ Welcome and Introduction - Monte Poll
- ❖ Pledge of Allegiance
- ❖ Vision

7:30 PM - CONSENT ITEMS

- ❖ Approve Board Meeting Minutes from August 2007
- ❖ Approve Work Session Minutes from August 2007

7:30 PM - REPORTS

- ❖ Principal Report (5 minutes)
 - Discuss Student Academic Progress for 2006-2007 School Year – Debby Gomberg
- ❖ PTO Report (5 minutes)
- ❖ Academics Report (5 minutes)
 - Report on Junior High Progress

7:45 PM – BUSINESS ITEMS (To Be Voted Upon)

- ❖ Vote to Accept Financial Summary Report for October 2007
- ❖ Vote on Budget Adjustments
- ❖ Ratify Technology Purchases
- ❖ Vote on Junior High Grade Configuration
- ❖ Vote on Revised Enrollment and Lottery Policy
- ❖ Vote on Records Management Policy
- ❖ Ratify the 2007-2008 Teachers

7:55 PM – OTHER BUSINESS (Items For Discussion Only)

8:00 PM – PUBLIC COMMENT (Comments will be limited to 3 minutes each)

8:00 PM – ADJOURN

Notes from Principal Gomberg:

“Killer Units” begin Monday, Oct 1

The teachers will begin teaching our first “Killer Unit” on Monday. We are so excited about this new curriculum. Killer Units are 6-week units that are interdisciplinary in nature that focus on a theme. The theme of our first unit is “Geography/Place”, so we ask ourselves questions such as how does geography affect the natural resources of Utah, how does geography affect the types of occupations in Utah and Mexico, how does the geography or the location affect the perspective of a writer or poet?

Each grade level has planned lessons so their students will be able to answer these questions. The units are designed to meet the requirements of the state core curriculum, but in a more creative way. The students will be working to answer “Guiding Questions” as they work on projects throughout the 6-weeks. Thematic units are designed to help the student discover and more deeply understand the world around them and then connect what they have learned to their own lives. The learning activities will be more project-based, more inquiry- or discovery-based, and will require the use of critical thinking skills. They will read about the theme, do math story problems related to the topic, write about the theme, relate their science, social studies and even PE to the theme.

The 6-week unit will culminate in a school-wide presentation which we will call the “Gallery”. During the week of November 12-16, each grade level will have a display or a presentation to demonstrate what the students have learned. The school will be open in the evenings Monday through Thursday for parents to come in and look at all the different presentations. We think you will be impressed.

The teachers have been working very hard developing these units. They started last summer. College professors have trained the teachers, and they have worked along side our staff to help plan these units. Our plan is to develop a new unit each year for the next 3 or 4 years. We will repeat the geography theme and add a new one next year, and then we will continue to add a new unit until most of our curriculum is taught in this manner. We believe this approach will be a better way to teach the state core, develop higher order thinking skills, and achieve the vision of our school.

Put the week of November 12-16 on your calendar. We cannot wait to show off the students’ work.

Good Neighbor Parking:

We are fortunate to have good neighbors here at the school. We appreciate the many things they do for us. They have been most

generous in watching the property needs after hours, and loaning us partial use of their parking. HOWEVER, generous as this is, parking in the lot is becoming an issue for our neighbors. The parking area across from the school is private property for the use of homeowners. It is to service their pool, play area and park. We need to be sensitive. Please do not to use this lot when other alternatives are available. Over use may force the homeowners to deny us the partial availability we now enjoy. Thanks for your help.

Special Education Services At Ndpa

As most of you are probably aware, Charter Schools in the state of Utah are public schools. We follow all the rules and regulations required of traditional public schools. This means we offer Special Education Services.

We offer the full range of Special Education services including speech services. NDPA is responsible for "Child Find" in our school community. This means that any child who has been admitted to our school through our lottery system is entitled to Special Ed services for which they are appropriately qualified. We invite you to contact us at 547-1809 if you have a student with a disability so we can determine if your student is eligible for services.

The Davis School District is responsible for "Child Find" for pre-school students. If you have a pre-school aged child who has a disability, contact the Davis School District at 402-5169. They will be happy to assist you and your pre-school child.

Message from POET

Welcome back NDPA parents. I want to take a moment and re-assess this year. I have been with the NDPA from the start. I have watched it grow and increase in every aspect. I remember in the beginning my neighbors and friends would ask why I moved my children to the Charter School. I replied that it was just different and it fit the needs of my children.

Now, as I have watched NDPA grow and progress, develop a vision and move forward in that vision, I have to say that NDPA is unique in what we offer. I am proud to be a part of that vision. I watch as parents, staff, and teachers give of their time, effort and talents. I see a community evolving. This community has a positive impact on our children daily.

I fully believe that as we give of our time this year each of our children will benefit from the strengths of this community. I would like to say thank you to everyone who is a part of this. Thank you for giving up your time and offering it to a child. Let's move forward and continue to offer the best!!!

Shaunna Reynolds, POET Chair

First Grade Pow-Wow Help Needed



Volunteers needed for the first grade Pow Wow. If you are or know somebody who is of Native American Descent, we are looking for some volunteers to come into the classroom and teach about Native American Life. Please contact Julie Linford-546-3676 or mjlinford@juno.com (submitted by Kasey Grubb)

Yearbooks

School has just started, but it is never too soon to start thinking yearbooks. Pre-ordering now will ensure your child has lasting memories of this school year. The yearbook cost is just \$11.00. This price won't last forever, so order now. Please put your money in the POET box, and be sure to label the money for yearbook. Any questions? Call Kati Peters at 668-0389

After School Activities Update

After-school Art-

Just a reminder: Art begins Wednesday, October 3rd from 3.00-4.00pm in the gym. Don't worry about bringing art supplies, we have taken care of purchasing all that you'll need for the wonderful projects we have planned for you.

Parents of our art students: If you would like a fun way to get your volunteer hours, please join us. We are always appreciative of any help to set-up, supervise, assist and clean-up during art. And you'll get to spend an amazing hour watching our NDPA artists create masterpieces. Any questions, Bonnie Miller (547.8051) or Erinne Roundy (779.4472).

After-school Choir-

Do-Re-Mi-Fa-So-La-Ti-Doe- Singing is such a wonderful way to express one's self. So, come join our choir! You'll learn some great songs, as well as make some great friends. Registration is on-going. Open to all grades. There is a one-time registration fee of \$10.00 for each student. Any questions call: Kristy Pendrey (776.6409).

After-school Drama-

If you are interested in singing, dancing, or acting join after school drama! After-school drama will begin **January 10th 2008**. There will be a \$30.00 fee per student. This includes a group costume, expert training from people in the musical theater field and much more! Watch upcoming Friday Notes for more information as we get closer to this exciting and fun program. Any questions or interested in volunteering, please contact Brittani Brown (529.4008).